STATISTICS OF WOMEN AT WORK.

BASED ON UNPUBLISHED INFORMATION DERIVED FROM THE SCHEDULES OF THE TWELFTH CENSUS: 1900.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

INTRODUCTION.

The statistics presented and discussed in this report on women employed in gainful occupations in the United States are derived in part from the published reports of the Twelfth and earlier censuses, but chiefly from the original schedules of the Twelfth Census.

Statistics in regard to women at work or engaged in gainful occupations have been presented in the reports of each decennial population census of the United States since and including that taken in 1870. Those censuses of still earlier date that made inquiry regarding occupations either published the results without distinction of sex or gave figures for males only.

The term "gainful occupation" has never been formally defined by the Census Office. But the printed instructions issued to the enumerators in the Twelfth Census state that the question regarding occupations "applies to every person 10 years of age and over who is at work, that is, occupied in gainful labor, and calls for the profession, trade, or branch of work upon which each person depends chiefly for support, or in which he is engaged ordinarily during the larger part of the time." These instructions also state that a return of occupation is required "for each and every person 10 years of age and over who was engaged in gainful labor during any part of the census year (June 1, 1899, to May 31, 1900, inclusive), or who is ordinarily occupied in remunerative work but during the census year was unable to secure work of any kind." No return was to be made for a retired lawyer, merchant, or manufacturer, or for a wife or daughter living at home and assisting only in the household duties without pay; nor for a child doing domestic errands or family chores out of school hours but regularly attending school.

In discussing occupation statistics it is desirable for brevity and convenience to adopt some single word as a designation for persons reported by the census as engaged in gainful occupations. The term "breadwinners," which has already been introduced in other Census publications, will be used here for this purpose without, however, precluding altogether the use of the longer designation.

PROPORTION OF WOMEN AT WORK.

At the Twelfth Census, taken in the year 1900, the number of women in continental United States 16 years of age and over reported as breadwinners, or as engaged in gainful occupations, was 4,833,630. The total number of women 16 years of age and over was 23,485,559. The proportion of breadwinners, therefore, among women of that age was 20.6 per cent, or approximately 1 in 5. Among men of the same age the proportion was 90.5 per cent. The contrast is probably not greater than would be anticipated. Men take up some occupation almost as a matter of course, and usually follow it the greater part of their lives. With women the adoption of an occupation, although by no means unusual, is far from being customary, and in the well-to-do classes of society is exceptional; and with this sex, moreover, the pursuit of an occupation is probably more often temporary than permanent.

Race and nativity.—As would be expected the percentage of breadwinners among women differs widely in the main classes of population as defined by race and nativity. It is greatest among negro women, and least among the native white of native parentage. It is greater among the native white of foreign parentage—the children of immigrants—than among the foreign born white, or immigrants. The percentages for these classes are shown in Table 1, which for purposes of comparison includes the corresponding figures for males.

TABLE I.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the male and female population 16 years of age and over, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Male.			Female.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	24,851,013	22,489,425	90.5	23,485,559	4,833,630	20.6
Native white—both parents native	12,647,605	11,265,961	89.1	12,130,161	1,771,966	14.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,277,137	3,916,970	91.6	4,288,966	1,090,744	25.4
Foreign born white	5,215,356	4,798,863	92.0	4,403,494	840,011	19.1
Negro	2,535,109	2,356,442	93.0	2,589,988	1,119,621	43.2
Indian and Mongolian	175,806	151,189	86.0	72,947	11,288	15.5

The extent to which women in different classes of population engage in breadwinning pursuits is no doubt determined largely by differences in economic welfare. Probably few women take up a remunerative occupation who are so situated that they can live comfortably without it. It is the necessity of supporting themselves wholly or in part, and perhaps contributing to the support of those dependent upon them, that is usually the impelling motive. Of course this economic necessity varies in degree and depends largely upon the standard of living, or of comfort, in the social class to which the woman may belong. Moreover, the economic motive is in many cases strengthened by other motives or considerations and may sometimes have little importance in itself or even be entirely lacking. Doubtless a considerable number of the women who engage in such pursuits as teaching, literary work, or some other of the so-called liberal professions, are not constrained thereto by any necessity of earning a living, but are actuated by the motives that do not differ materially from those which appeal to men in similar circumstances, such as some form of ambition, a love of activity, or a desire for social usefulness. But it is safe to say that while women of this class may be increasing in numbers, they make up only a very small fraction of the total number of women returned by the census as breadwinners. They are not at present numerous enough to affect materially the percentages shown in a comparison of large classes or destroy the presumption that these percentages will reflect to a great extent the economic position of the classes compared, showing a tendency to decline in proportion as women are removed from the necessity of earning a living.

Nevertheless, the percentages for the different classes in Table I appear not to correspond completely with the probable rank of these classes in economic position. It would be expected that, in so far as economic status is the determining factor, the percentage of breadwinners would be greatest among negro women and least among native white women of native parentage; and this is shown to be the case. But it probably would not be expected that the percentage for native white women of foreign parentage would be greater than that for foreign born white women; for it is hardly to be supposed that the present day immigrants are better off in an economic sense than the children of immigrants, or the first generation of native Americans. Therefore, the fact that the women of foreign birth comprise fewer breadwinners in proportion to their numbers than the native women born of foreign parentage must be explained by the presence and influence of some factor which counteracts or disguises the difference in economic position. The factor that has this effect is the age distribution which, as will be shown later, differs very strikingly in the two classes here compared (see page 12).

Another modifying factor which does not readily admit of statistical measurement, but should be referred to in this connection, is the opportunity for employment of women, which varies in different communities and classes and is perhaps increasing in all. This doubtless has an important effect on the extent to which women take up occupations or become breadwinners. Opportunities are in general more abundant in the city than in the country; and the foreign born and their children, being concentrated in cities to a much greater degree than the native population of native parentage, would for that reason also be likely to include a larger percentage of breadwinners among women.

It will be noticed that for men the percentage of breadwinners, as shown in the above table, does not differ materially in the different classes compared, but that such differences as exist correspond to the assumed gradations of economic welfare, the four main classes—the negroes, the foreign born white, the native white of foreign parentage, and the native white of native parentage—ranking in the order in which they are here named. Probably the percentage of men who sooner or later take up an occupation is about the same in all classes of society, and these differences, which appear in the classes as enumerated on a given day arise chiefly from the fact that in the poorer classes men take up occupations earlier in life and perhaps follow them longer.

Age.—Table II gives the number and percentage of breadwinners among males and females classified by age.

TABLE II.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the male and female population 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Male.			Female.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	24,851,013	22,489,425	90.5	23,485,559	4,833,630	20.6
16 to 20 years	3,716,714	2,855,425	76.8	3,837,851	1,237,967	32.3
21 to 24 years	2,888,931	2,689,226	93.1	2,914,591	898,478	30.8
25 to 34 years	6,224,864	5,993,847	96.3	5,860,616	1,168,342	19.9
35 to 44 years	4,872,781	4,704,682	96.6	4,339,166	675,032	15.6
45 to 54 years	3,402,458	3,250,259	95.5	2,994,983	440,825	14.7
55 to 64 years	2,062,424	1,856,181	90.0	1,940,111	256,705	13.2
65 years and over	1,555,418	1,063,856	68.4	1,525,080	138,587	9.1
Age unknown	127,423	75,949	59.6	73,161	17,694	24.2

It is apparent from Table II that young women are engaged in breadwinning pursuits to a much greater extent than women of older years. The maximum percentage of breadwinners for this sex is in fact that shown for the youngest age group, 16 to 20 years, and the percentage declines without interruption in each older age period, the decline being most marked in the ten-year period beginning at 25. This decline reflects the fact that a large proportion of the women who take up an occupation in early life abandon it later when they marry. Indeed, from an economic standpoint, marriage for a woman is in some respects analogous to an occupation for a man; and it has been said with some truth that marriage is woman's occupation or profession. The resemblance is twofold. Through marriage, as from an occupation, a woman usually secures at least a livelihood and perhaps the enjoyment of wealth and luxury; and again marriage, like an occupation, normally and usually imposes upon a woman certain duties and responsibilities, namely, those arising from the care of home and family, involving in the majority of cases more or less labor in the form of housework. Thus under ordinary conditions the married woman lacks the incentive as well as the time or opportunity to engage in a breadwinning occupation. Moreover, there are natural and obvious barriers to the employment of married women in pursuits which take them from their homes, especially in cases where there are children in the home.

Usually, therefore, a woman who may have taken up a breadwinning occupation in early life gives up that occupation when she marries, or soon thereafter, and devotes herself to the duties of domestic life. With the other sex, of course, matrimony does not have that result, but, on the contrary, usually acts as an added incentive for adopting or pursuing a breadwinning occupation. Accordingly the percentage of breadwinners among men shows no marked decline until late in life.

The fact that a large proportion of the women who are breadwinners in early life give up their occupation upon reaching the marriageable—or marrying—age affects the age distribution of the breadwinners of this sex so that it is in marked contrast with that of male breadwinners, as is shown by Table III.

TABLE III.—*Distribution, by age, of the male and female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			
	Male.		Female.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	22,489,425	100.0	4,833,630	100.0
16 to 24 years	5,544,651	24.7	2,136,445	44.2
16 to 20 years	2,855,425	12.7	1,237,967	25.6
21 to 24 years	2,689,226	12.0	898,478	18.6
25 to 34 years	5,993,847	26.7	1,168,342	24.2
35 to 44 years	4,704,682	20.9	675,032	14.0
45 to 54 years	3,250,259	14.5	440,825	9.1
55 to 64 years	1,856,181	8.3	256,705	5.3
65 years and over	1,063,856	4.7	138,587	2.9
Age unknown	75,949	0.3	17,694	0.4

It appears from the above table that almost 45 per cent of the women engaged in breadwinning pursuits were under 25 years of age, and more than 68 per cent were under 35. The corresponding percentages for the other sex are much lower, being 24.7 and 51.4, respectively. It is evident, then, that the extent to which women in any class of population or in any community are engaged in breadwinning occupations depends to a considerable degree upon the factor of age. Other things being equal, the class or community in which there is the largest percentage of young women will have the largest representation of breadwinners among that sex. Therefore, in undertaking to account for the differences between different classes of population as regards the proportion of women engaged in breadwinning pursuits, differences in age distribution become important factors to be considered.

Table IV shows the age distribution for women in the principal race and nativity classes of the population, for which comparisons have already been made.

TABLE IV.—*Distribution, by age, of the female population 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white—both parents native.	Native white—one or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	NUMBER.				
Total	23,485,559	12,130,161	4,288,969	4,403,494	2,589,988
16 to 20 years	3,837,851	2,092,138	862,537	339,349	531,138
21 to 24 years	2,914,591	1,490,273	657,463	372,474	386,790
25 to 34 years	5,860,616	2,860,606	1,323,801	1,020,689	639,359
35 to 44 years	4,339,166	2,115,226	868,394	913,574	429,442
45 to 54 years	2,994,983	1,590,440	366,145	735,067	293,688
55 to 64 years	1,940,111	1,081,431	137,986	557,010	157,579
65 years and over	1,525,080	864,846	69,362	456,587	128,338
Age unknown	73,161	35,201	3,281	8,744	23,654
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 20 years	16.3	17.3	20.1	7.7	20.5
21 to 24 years	12.4	12.3	15.3	8.5	14.9
25 to 34 years	25.0	23.6	30.9	23.2	24.7
35 to 44 years	18.5	17.4	20.3	20.7	16.6
45 to 54 years	12.7	13.1	8.5	16.7	11.3
55 to 64 years	8.3	8.9	3.2	12.6	6.1
65 years and over	6.5	7.1	1.6	10.4	5.0
Age unknown	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.9

The per cent distribution given in the above table brings out the marked contrast as regards age constitution between white women of foreign birth and native white women whose parents were of foreign birth. Of the latter, 35.4 per cent were under 25 years of age; of the former, only 16.2 per cent. It is this contrast in age which accounts in large part for the fact that the percentage of breadwinners is much greater among native white women of foreign parentage than among foreign born white women. It may be assumed that for the most part the two classes here compared live side by side in the same communities; and although the first generation of native Americans are presumably more prosperous as a class than the immigrants, the difference is probably not great enough to have a marked influence on the extent to which women in these two classes of population engage in breadwinning pursuits. Therefore, as would be expected, the great difference noted in the percentage of young women becomes the decisive factor, and the class comprising the larger percentage of young women naturally comprises the larger percentage of breadwinners.

Among the native white women of native parentage the percentage of young women under 25 is 29.6, which is much larger than the corresponding percentage for the foreign born white, but considerably smaller than that for the native white of foreign parentage and that for the negro. It is probable that the rank of this class in the percentage of breadwinners among women is determined by economic position rather than by age constitution. This is equally true of the negro women, for whom the percentage of breadwinners is largest, although the percentage of young women is not larger than it is for the native white of foreign parentage.

The effect of these differences in age distribution may be eliminated by a comparison for these different classes in the same age period, such as is presented by Table v.

TABLE V.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF BREADWINNERS IN THE FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY RACE, NATIVITY, AND AGE, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.											
	Native white—both parents native.			Native white—one or both parents foreign born.			Foreign born white.			Negro.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	12,130,161	1,771,966	14.6	4,288,969	1,090,744	25.4	4,403,494	840,011	19.1	2,589,988	1,119,621	43.2
16 to 20 years	2,092,138	434,822	20.8	862,537	345,022	40.0	339,349	192,817	56.8	531,138	263,393	49.6
21 to 24 years	1,490,273	318,070	21.3	657,463	248,202	37.8	372,474	154,743	41.5	386,790	176,325	45.6
25 to 34 years	2,860,606	399,048	13.9	1,323,801	297,768	22.5	1,020,689	202,132	19.8	639,359	266,942	41.8
35 to 44 years	2,115,226	244,348	11.6	868,394	130,682	15.0	913,574	119,164	13.0	429,442	178,802	41.6
45 to 54 years	1,590,440	182,106	11.5	366,145	46,903	12.8	735,067	86,069	11.7	293,688	124,023	42.2
55 to 64 years	1,081,431	120,592	11.2	137,986	15,975	11.6	557,010	54,534	9.8	157,579	64,534	41.0
65 years and over	864,846	67,624	7.8	69,362	5,367	7.7	456,587	28,251	6.2	128,338	36,539	28.5
Age unknown	35,201	5,356	15.2	3,281	825	25.1	8,744	2,301	26.3	23,654	9,063	38.3

Table v shows that in each age group except the two oldest the percentage of breadwinners is smallest among the native white women of native parentage, and that in each age group except the youngest it is largest among negro women.

It is apparent, also, that under the age of 25 the foreign born white women engage in breadwinning pursuits to a greater extent than native white women of foreign parentage. But this is not the case in the older age periods. Doubtless the comparison between the two classes is affected by a difference in marital condition. At each period of life the percentage of single women is somewhat smaller among the foreign born white women who have migrated to this country than among the native white women of foreign parentage. In other words, marriage, which interferes with the pursuit of an occupation, is somewhat more general among the former than among the latter.[1] In a com-

[1] Twelfth Census, Population, Part II, page lxxxvii.

parison restricted to single women, it will be found that at each age period the percentage of breadwinners is higher for the foreign born white than for the native white of foreign parentage (see Table IX).

The fact that after the age of 55 the percentage of breadwinners for the native white of native parentage becomes larger than that for the foreign born white and about the same as that for the native white of foreign parentage indicates, of course, that for some reason the native white women of native parentage continue or take up occupations late in life to a greater extent than women in the other classes. A partial explanation may be found in the difference of environment. The native white are represented in agricultural communities to a greater extent than the foreign born, and it will be found that a large proportion of these older breadwinners among the native white of native parentage were returned as farmers, many of them probably being widows who, in carrying on the farms of their deceased husbands, were taking up an occupation of which they already had considerable knowledge and experience.

The fact has been noted that the percentage of breadwinners among women is largest in the youngest age group, 16 to 20 years. This is also true in each of the classes of population distinguished in the above table except the native white of native parents among whom the highest percentage of breadwinners is that shown for the next older age period, 21 to 24. This may indicate that in this class of the population women do not begin working at so young an age and perhaps do not marry as soon as in the other classes.

It is noticeable that among negro women the percentage of breadwinners, although highest in the youngest age group, shows no very marked decline until the period of old age is reached, and that between the ages 25 and 54 the percentage remains almost stationary. It may be inferred, therefore, that marriage does not have the same effect in reducing the proportion of breadwinners among women of this race as it does among white women. This inference is substantiated by statistics, which will be presented in the next section, showing the proportion of breadwinners in the female population, classified by race and marital condition.

Marital condition.—A classification by marital condition of the breadwinners of each sex 10 years of age and over is given in the Twelfth Census report on Occupations. This shows the total number in each of the four marital classes, comprising the single—with whom are included the unknown—the married, the widowed, and the divorced. But, as this classification was not combined with an age classification, it is not possible, without going back to the original returns and making a special count, to state accurately the number in each marital class for those breadwinners who are 16 years of age and over. The number may, however, be estimated with a close approach to accuracy by assuming that none of the breadwinners who were reported as married, widowed, or divorced were under 16, or in other words, that all those who were under 16 were single. On this assumption the total number of single breadwinners 16 years of age and over would be obtained by subtracting the total number of breadwinners 10 to 15 years of age from the total number of single breadwinners 10 years of age and over. Of course the result thus obtained is not quite accurate, because, without doubt, a small number of the breadwinners 10 to 15 years of age were married. Accordingly the estimated number of single breadwinners 16 years and over is slightly too small, while the estimated numbers of the married, and possibly of the widowed and divorced, are slightly too large; but the differences are not serious enough to affect materially the comparisons or conclusions which may be based upon these estimates. It is necessary to make a similar estimate in order to obtain, for purposes of comparison, the marital classification of the total female population 16 years of age and over. The figures showing marital condition for the population 15 years of age and over are given in the published Census reports, and the corresponding figures for the population 16 years of age and over have been computed by assuming that all women just 15 years of age are single. This again results in a slight exaggeration of the number married and a slight understatement of the number single.

The results obtained by making these assumptions are shown in the following tabular statement:

AGE.	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.
Females:					
15 years and over	24,249,191	7,606,772	13,810,057	2,717,715	114,647
15 years	[1] 763,632	[1] 763,632	.....	.....	.....
16 years and over	23,485,559	6,843,140	13,810,057	2,717,715	114,647
Female breadwinners:					
10 years and over	5,319,397	3,629,479	769,477	857,005	63,436
10 to 15 years, inclusive	[1] 485,767	[1] 485,767	.....	.....	.....
16 years and over	4,833,630	3,143,712	769,477	857,005	63,436

[1] Assumed to be single.

Attention has already been called to the fact that the percentage of breadwinners among women undergoes a marked reduction at the period of life when most women marry. The effect of matrimony is shown more directly in Table VI, in which the percentage of breadwinners among married women may be compared with that in other marital classes. Of the women who were married, 5.6 per cent, or approximately 1 in 18, were returned in the census as being breadwinners or having gainful occupations. Among single women the proportion is 45.9 per cent, or about 9 in 20. Women living in widowhood take up breadwinning pursuits more generally than married women,

but not so much as women who are single. The difference in this respect between the widowed and the single is due partly to the difference in age. The widowed comprise a comparatively small proportion of young women and a large proportion of old women, many of whom are no longer able to work, and, if not provided with independent resources, must be supported by their children or other relatives or by private or public charity.

TABLE VI.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the male and female population 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, for continental United States: 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Male.			Female.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	24,851,013	22,489,425	90.5	23,485,559	4,833,630	20.6
Single (incl. unknown)[1]	9,533,157	8,355,666	86.7	6,843,140	3,143,712	45.9
Married[1]	13,955,050	13,150,671	94.2	13,810,057	769,477	5.6
Widowed[1]	1,177,976	907,855	77.1	2,717,715	857,005	31.5
Divorced[1]	84,230	75,233	89.3	114,647	63,436	55.3

[1] Estimated from published census returns giving the marital condition of the female population 15 years of age and over, and that of female breadwinners 10 years of age and over.

It is interesting to note that the largest percentage of breadwinners among women in the above comparison by marital classes is that for divorced women. This is by far the smallest of the four marital classes, and the census returns of the number of women living in a state of divorce are doubtless deficient, perhaps because the fact of divorce entails in most communities some social condemnation, and is therefore not likely to be admitted in many cases where it actually exists.[1] It has been suggested that the returns which were received are in harmony with the theory that the increase in the number of divorces is in large measure the result of the more independent economic position of women, the figures indicating that the women who secure divorces are uncommonly well qualified to support themselves.[2] At the same time it will be found that this marital class comprises a much smaller percentage of old women than the widowed,[3] and it is not unlikely, moreover, that the divorced women may as a class be under a greater necessity of earning their own living than the other unmarried classes with which they are here compared.

As already explained, comparisons of the number of breadwinners in different marital classes by age periods can not be derived from the published returns of the Twelfth Census, because the classification of breadwinners by marital condition was not combined with a classification by age. This combination was given in the Eleventh Census reports, but was omitted in the Twelfth in order to include other detail which was regarded as more important. From the Eleventh Census data, therefore, the comparisons referred to may be made; and it is probable that the general conclusions based upon the Eleventh Census figures would be true of conditions at the time of the Twelfth Census, since such other comparisons as can be made for both censuses indicate that the relative position of different classes of population as regards the percentage of breadwinners did not materially change in the ten-year interval. Accordingly Table VII has been prepared with the belief that the figures for 1890 can be accepted as typical of conditions in 1900.

[1] Twelfth Census, Supplementary Analysis, page 385.

[2] Twelfth Census, Supplementary Analysis, page 442.

[3] Twelfth Census, Occupations, page ccxiii.

TABLE VII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF BREADWINNERS IN THE FEMALE POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND MARITAL CONDITION, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1890.

AGE.	FEMALE POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Single (including unknown).			Married.			Widowed.			Divorced.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	19,602,178	3,712,144	18.9	6,250,912	2,531,548	40.5	11,124,785	515,124	4.6	2,154,598	630,257	29.3	71,883	35,215	49.0
15 to 24 years	6,400,635	1,853,460	29.0	4,592,607	1,715,084	37.3	1,758,695	112,261	6.4	41,301	22,095	53.5	8,032	4,020	50.0
25 to 34 years	4,682,432	807,670	17.2	971,653	534,428	55.0	3,522,268	169,322	4.8	166,762	91,745	55.0	21,749	12,175	56.0
35 to 44 years	3,346,031	441,067	13.2	332,564	159,827	48.1	2,698,266	122,614	4.5	296,302	148,383	50.1	18,899	10,243	54.2
45 to 54 years	2,430,878	313,363	12.9	173,449	71,148	41.0	1,796,979	70,824	3.9	447,370	165,567	37.0	13,080	5,824	44.5
55 to 64 years	1,499,997	180,387	12.0	88,229	28,481	32.3	905,627	27,164	3.0	499,420	122,529	24.5	6,721	2,213	32.9
65 years and over	1,183,569	98,158	8.3	68,755	12,161	17.7	418,399	9,464	2.3	693,324	75,974	11.0	3,091	559	18.1
Age unknown	58,636	18,039	30.8	23,655	10,419	44.0	24,551	3,475	14.2	10,119	3,964	39.2	311	181	58.2

Although the percentage of breadwinners in each marital class was smaller in 1890 than in 1900, the relative position of the classes compared was the same at the two censuses. In 1890, as in 1900, the divorced had the largest percentage of breadwinners; and next to them came the single, then the widowed, and lastly the married. This fact strengthens the presumption that a comparison by age groups at the later census, if it could be made, would probably show substantially the same relationship as at the earlier. The figures

for 1890, at any rate, show that in the youngest age period, 15 to 24 years, the percentage of breadwinners for widows was slightly larger than that for the divorced, and that both these percentages were considerably larger than the percentage for the single. In the next age period, 25 to 34 years, the percentages were almost exactly the same for all three of the unmarried classes. For each age period above 34 years the highest percentage was always that for the divorced.

Between the ages of 15 and 44 widows were engaged in breadwinning pursuits to a greater extent than single women; but above the age of 44 the single show the higher percentage of breadwinners. Doubtless many young widows are impelled to take up some remunerative occupation by the necessity of supporting not only themselves but their dependent children. As the years go by the children grow up and are able to support their mothers. It is probable, too, that women who become widows late in life are as a class better provided for than those who became widows at an earlier age. These conditions may explain why, with the advance in years, the percentage of breadwinners falls off more rapidly among widows than in either of the other two unmarried classes.

Among married women the percentage of breadwinners is highest in the youngest age group and steadily declines with each advance in age. Many married women who follow some breadwinning occupation for a time after marriage are compelled to abandon it later when, on account of the birth of children, domestic duties become more exacting. At a still later period the economic position of the family may so far improve, either through the increased earnings of the husband or the contributory earnings of older children, that the wages or earnings which the wife might obtain by engaging in some breadwinning pursuit are no longer essential.

In Table VIII the classification of women by marital status is combined with that by race and nativity, but without distinction of age.

TABLE VIII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF BREADWINNERS IN THE FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY MARITAL CONDITION, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Single (including unknown).[1]			Married.[1]			Widowed.[1]			Divorced.[1]		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	23,485,559	4,833,630	20.6	6,843,140	3,143,712	45.9	13,810,057	769,477	5.6	2,717,715	857,005	31.5	114,647	63,436	55.3
Native white—both parents native	12,130,161	1,771,966	14.6	3,483,867	1,177,420	33.8	7,251,375	217,257	3.0	1,332,334	347,563	26.1	62,585	29,726	47.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,288,969	1,090,744	25.4	1,802,436	929,852	51.6	2,212,946	68,976	3.1	256,953	83,107	32.3	16,634	8,809	53.0
Foreign born white	4,403,494	840,011	19.1	832,945	586,173	70.4	2,855,446	102,169	3.6	702,585	145,240	20.7	12,518	6,429	51.4
Negro	2,589,988	1,119,621	43.2	710,031	447,750	63.1	1,443,817	376,096	26.0	414,107	277,655	67.0	22,033	18,120	82.2
Indian and Mongolian	72,947	11,288	15.5	13,861	2,517	18.2	46,473	4,979	10.7	11,736	3,440	29.3	877	352	40.1

[1] Estimated from published census returns by method explained on page 13.

Disregarding the figures for the comparatively small number of Indian and Mongolian women, it will be found that in each marital class except the widowed the percentage of breadwinners is smallest for native white women of native parentage; and in each marital class except the single is largest for negro women. The exceptions noted arise from the fact that the foreign born whites have the largest percentage of breadwinners among single women and the smallest among the widowed. That the percentage of breadwinners should be exceptionally high among the single women of foreign birth who have migrated to this country would probably be anticipated. But the fact that the widows in the foreign born population include relatively fewer breadwinners than any other class of widows may seem on first consideration rather remarkable. The probable explanation varies according to the class of widows with which the comparison is made. Comparing the foreign born white with the native white of native parentage, it should be noted that the former are concentrated in cities and industrial centers, while a large proportion of the latter live in agricultural communities where widows readily take up the occupation of farming. Again, as compared with the native white widows whose parents were foreign born, the widows of foreign birth comprise a large proportion of persons of advanced age; and, as compared with widows in the negro population, their economic position is doubtless so much superior that they are under less necessity of taking up breadwinning pursuits. In brief, white widows of foreign birth include more aged women than the native white widows whose parents were of foreign birth, are concentrated in cities to a greater extent than native white widows whose parents were also native, and are better off in an economic sense than widows in the

negro race; and these are probably the reasons why they have a smaller percentage of breadwinners than the classes of widows with which they are compared.

Comparing the rank of the four marital classes with respect to the percentage of breadwinners, it will be noted that among the native white women of either native or foreign parentage the order is the same as it is for the total population. The divorced women have the highest percentage; the single rank next in this respect; then come the widowed; and lastly, with a percentage very much lower than that for any other marital class, the married. Among the foreign born white women the highest percentage is that for the single women; while among the negroes the percentage for the single is exceeded by that for the widowed as well as that for the divorced.

In every race and nativity class the percentage of breadwinners is much lower for married women than for the single, widowed, or divorced. But this difference is by no means so striking among negroes as it is among the whites, and it is thus evident that the married negro woman supports herself or contributes to the support of her family much more generally than the married white woman. This would probably be taken for granted without reference to statistics. But here, as in many other cases, the main value of the statistics consists in measuring the extent of differences known to exist. That even among negroes marriage makes a great difference in the economic position of women is indicated by the fact that the percentage of breadwinners for the single women of this race is almost two and one-half times that for the married women. On making the same comparison for the different classes of white women, it will be found, however, that the one percentage is about eleven times the other in the case of the native white of native parentage, about seventeen times in the case of the native white of foreign parentage, and almost twenty times in the case of the foreign born white.

Marital condition and age.—In the two preceding tables analyzing the census data relative to women engaged in gainful occupations, the race and nativity classification of population has been combined first with a classification by age and then with a classification by marital condition. The analysis may now be carried a step farther, by presenting the race and nativity classification in combination with a classification by both age and marital condition. To do this, however, it is necessary to revert again to the census of 1890, since, as already explained, the requisite detail is not presented in the published reports of the census of 1900. Table IX accordingly applies to the women enumerated at the earlier census, but doubtless represents fairly well the conditions prevailing at the later, so far at least as the relative position of the different classes compared is concerned. To save space the table presents the percentages only. The numbers on which these percentages are based may be found in the published reports of the Eleventh Census.[1]

TABLE IX.—*Percentage of breadwinners in the female population 15 years of age and over, classified by age, marital condition, race, and nativity, for the United States: 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	PERCENTAGE OF BREADWINNERS AMONG WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.							
	Total.	15 to 24 years.	25 to 34 years.	35 to 44 years.	45 to 54 years.	55 to 64 years.	65 years and over.	Age unknown.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.							
All classes	18.9	29.0	17.2	13.2	12.9	12.0	8.3	30.8
Native white—both parents native	12.4	17.7	11.4	9.2	9.8	9.9	6.7	22.2
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	25.3	35.0	19.2	12.1	10.9	10.7	7.2	31.1
Foreign born white	19.8	50.4	19.8	12.0	10.5	9.4	6.1	37.5
Negro	39.9	45.3	37.4	37.0	37.8	37.2	26.2	42.1
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).							
All classes	40.5	37.3	55.0	48.1	41.0	32.3	17.7	44.0
Native white—both parents native	27.5	24.0	42.2	36.6	31.6	24.9	13.6	35.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	44.4	41.9	55.6	49.5	40.9	29.9	16.6	43.6
Foreign born white	70.4	71.1	78.6	68.0	57.3	44.9	23.1	77.8
Negro	59.3	55.4	77.6	79.3	77.4	68.5	43.4	49.2
	MARRIED.							
All classes	4.6	6.4	4.8	4.5	3.9	3.0	2.3	14.2
Native white—both parents native	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.2	5.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.2	1.7	6.5
Foreign born white	3.0	4.7	3.4	3.1	2.5	1.9	1.4	8.2
Negro	22.7	24.5	23.3	22.4	21.0	19.1	15.2	29.3
	WIDOWED.							
All classes	29.3	53.5	55.0	50.1	37.0	24.5	11.0	39.2
Native white—both parents native	23.7	32.6	42.2	42.4	33.4	22.6	9.3	25.7
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	30.3	40.5	46.1	40.6	28.7	20.4	8.9	27.6
Foreign born white	21.3	51.3	53.6	42.4	27.8	18.0	7.9	25.5
Negro	62.6	77.2	81.8	80.0	69.5	55.2	29.7	58.5
	DIVORCED.							
All classes	49.0	50.0	56.0	54.2	44.5	32.9	18.1	58.2
Native white—both parents native	42.6	39.7	48.5	48.5	40.2	30.7	16.2	46.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	47.9	45.4	52.6	48.5	37.9	35.9	25.6	(1)
Foreign born white	44.8	55.8	59.4	53.0	41.8	29.9	14.2	(1)
Negro	79.8	75.2	81.2	83.7	84.3	64.6	48.4	75.2

[1] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

It has been assumed that so far as the effect of economic conditions is concerned, the normal order of the four principal race and nativity classes, if ranked with reference to the decreasing percentage of breadwinners among women, would be as follows: 1, negro; 2, foreign born white; 3, native white of foreign parentage; 4, native white of native parentage. The deviation from this order has been explained as due in part to the effect which age distribution has upon

[1] Eleventh Census, Population, Part I, page 831, and Part II, page 750.

marital condition and this indirectly upon the proportion of breadwinners. Briefly stated, the chain of causation is as follows: The more young women, the more single women; and the more single women, the more breadwinners. Thus while the native white women born of foreign parentage are assumed to be better off economically than the foreign born white women, they have nevertheless a much larger percentage of breadwinners because, as already explained, they have a relatively large proportion of young and unmarried women. But in the above table the disturbing effect of differences in age distribution and marital condition is practically eliminated by presenting the percentages by race and nativity for women in the same age group and same marital class.

In general, it will be noted the order of the four race and nativity classes conforms to that designated as the normal, the largest percentage in the column being in most cases that for negro women, the foreign born white usually ranking next, then the native white born of foreign parentage, and lastly the native white whose parents were also native. The most notable deviations from this order are those indicating that foreign born white women who are single and under 25 years of age are working at breadwinning pursuits much more generally than the corresponding class of negro women; that in the white population 55 years of age and over the native married women of foreign parentage comprise relatively more breadwinners than the married women of foreign birth; and that of the widows over 55 in the white population the natives whose parents were also natives engage in breadwinning to a greater extent than the natives whose parents were foreign born, and the latter, in turn, to a greater extent than the widows of foreign birth. Among divorced women the order of the percentage for the four race and nativity classes conforms to what is assumed to be the normal order in the two youngest age periods only; but in this detailed analysis the percentage for the divorced can not probably be treated as especially significant, the numbers being, as already remarked, comparatively small and the census enumeration presumably more or less defective.

City and country.—A comparison of the occupation returns of the census by localities indicates that there is a larger proportion of breadwinners among women living in cities than among those living in rural districts. This result would probably be anticipated, because it is generally understood that the nature and variety of occupations carried on in commercial and manufacturing centers afford more opportunities for women seeking remunerative employment than are presented in agricultural districts. It may also be due in part to the composition of the urban population, in which are represented the extremes of wealth and poverty, so that the demand for the employment of women in domestic or personal service, as well as in commercial and industrial pursuits, exists side by side with the necessity for seeking such employment. In the rural population there is usually a closer approach to social and economic equality, and probably less poverty in proportion to population.

A comparison which segregates the distinctively rural districts from urban communities can not, however, be made on the basis of census statistics, because the returns by locality are not published in sufficient detail. In fact, the tabulation of the figures in such fullness as would be requisite for this purpose would hardly be justifiable, even if practicable. The Twelfth Census report on Occupations, however, published in considerable detail the occupation data for cities having a population of over 50,000; and on the basis of these published figures and of additional details compiled and published for the first time in the present report, a series of tables has been prepared comparing totals for cities of over 50,000 with those for smaller places or communities outside such cities, as regards the number, classification, and proportion of breadwinners comprised in the female population 16 years of age and over.

This comparison may be treated as representing approximately the difference between city and country. The population living in cities of over 50,000 is of course exclusively urban; while the population living outside such cities is mainly rural, as is evident from the fact that, as shown by the Twelfth Census, 76.9 per cent of this population is found in places having less than 2,500 inhabitants. Thus the comparison is between the conditions prevailing in the distinctively urban population living in the large or middle class cities, and the mainly, though not entirely, rural population living outside such cities. Table x, presenting totals for continental United States, measures the difference between these two classes of communities as regards the proportion of breadwinners comprised in the total female population 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity.

TABLE X.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 16 years of age and over living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—					
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,855,790	1,657,728	28.3	17,629,769	3,175,902	18.0
Native white—both parents native	1,703,955	414,954	24.4	10,426,206	1,357,012	13.0
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,700,209	554,806	32.6	2,588,760	535,938	20.7
Foreign born white	2,095,206	494,043	23.6	2,308,288	345,968	15.0
Negro	353,787	193,318	54.6	2,236,201	926,303	41.4
Indian and Mongolian	2,633	607	23.1	70,314	10,681	15.2

For convenience the term "city" will be used in this connection to designate collectively cities of over 50,000 inhabitants, the term "country" being applied to the smaller cities and country districts. The above table shows that in the city as thus defined the percentage of breadwinners among all classes of women is greater than it is in the country by a little more than one-half. This means, of course, that if the total female population 16 years of age and over were the same in the city as in the country and the percentages remained unchanged, there would be 3 women occupied as breadwinners in the city to every 2 in the country. Reducing the percentages to simple ratios, we find that in the city approximately 2 women out of every 7 are breadwinners; in the country 2 out of every 11.

The comparison by race and nativity presented in the above table shows that for each class of the population the percentage of breadwinners is larger in the city than in the country. The contrast is most marked in the case of the native white of native parentage, for whom the percentage of breadwinners is almost twice as large in the city as in the country. This is explained in part by the fact that the white population of foreign birth or foreign parentage outside the larger cities is undoubtedly concentrated largely in the smaller cities, or the urban portion of what is here termed country, while the white population of native birth and native parentage is a more distinctively rural population and therefore affected to a greater extent by the conditions prevailing in rural communities, where, as has been assumed and as the statistics here considered indicate, the percentage of breadwinners among women is normally smaller than in the cities. The class which shows largest percentages and the smallest difference between city and country is the negro, a fact probably indicative of the comparative poverty of the race in all communities and implying the extensive employment of negro women as farm laborers in agricultural districts and as domestic servants in cities.

Table XI introduces into this comparison between city and country, as regards the number and proportion of breadwinners among women, a classification by age groups.

It is evident from this table that the excess in the percentage of breadwinners in the city is most marked among young women, gradually becoming less in older age periods, and disappearing entirely in a comparison for women 65 years of age and over. One reason may be that the cityward migration of women seeking employment, which is undoubtedly a contributory factor in making the proportion of breadwinners higher in city than in country, is confined mostly to single women in the younger years of life. At the same time it is noticeable that in the city the decline in the percentage of breadwinners accompanying the advance in age continues without interruption and is comparatively rapid, while in the country it is interrupted at the age of 35, and there is no further decline of any significance until the age of 65 is reached. This difference suggests that the occupations peculiar to the country are such as may be more readily continued or taken up late in life. Now the principal occupations that are followed in the country and are also practically unrepresented in the city are those connected with agriculture; and attention has been called to the fact that the census shows a considerable number of women in middle life or advanced age who are reported as farmers. These help to swell the percentage of breadwinners in the country in the older age periods.

TABLE XI.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 16 years of age and over living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by age, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—					
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	5,840,321	1,653,518	28.3	17,572,077	3,162,418	18.0
16 to 20 years	835,858	434,367	52.0	3,001,993	803,600	26.8
21 to 24 years	747,661	334,196	44.7	2,166,930	564,282	26.0
25 to 34 years	1,634,070	446,477	27.3	4,226,546	721,865	17.1
35 to 44 years	1,162,907	234,180	20.1	3,176,259	440,852	13.9
45 to 54 years	724,173	124,112	17.1	2,270,810	316,713	13.9
55 to 64 years	431,347	57,479	13.3	1,508,764	199,226	13.2
65 years and over	304,305	22,707	7.5	1,220,775	115,880	9.5

The influence of this class upon the percentages given in the above table for smaller cities and country districts is apparent in Table XII, which has been prepared on the assumption that none of the women reported by the Census as engaged in agricultural pursuits lived in cities having over 50,000 inhabitants. This assumption is obviously a very close approximation to the truth, only a very small number of women[1] in the large cities being reported as engaged in occupations connected with agriculture.

The last column in Table XII shows what percentages of the women living in the smaller cities and country districts are engaged in pursuits not connected with agriculture, and it is noticeable that beginning with the second age period, 21 to 24 years, this percentage steadily declines. On the other hand, the percentage engaged in agricultural pursuits, while it declines up to the age of 35, steadily increases after that until in the age group 55 to 64 years the percentage is as high as that in the youngest age group. This fall and rise reflects on the one hand the extent to which young women or girls employed as farm laborers, most of

[1] The total number was in fact 2,853. But this total has not been distributed by age periods in such detail as to make possible its exclusion from Table XII.

them probably being farmers' children working on the home farm, give up this occupation as they grow older; and on the other the extent to which women past middle life, especially those who are widows of farmers, assume the management of farms.[1]

TABLE XII.—*Female population 16 years of age and over living in cities of less than 50,000 inhabitants and in country districts, with number and percentage engaged in agricultural pursuits and in all other occupations, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, LIVING IN CITIES OF LESS THAN 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS.				
	Total.	Breadwinners.			
		In agricultural pursuits.[1]		In all other occupations.	
		Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	17,572,077	766,577	4.4	2,395,840	13.6
16 to 20 years	3,001,993	177,876	5.9	625,724	20.9
21 to 24 years	2,166,930	83,826	3.9	480,455	22.1
25 to 34 years	4,226,546	123,677	2.9	598,188	14.2
35 to 44 years	3,176,259	114,152	3.6	326,700	10.3
45 to 54 years	2,270,810	116,842	5.1	199,871	8.8
55 to 64 years	1,508,764	89,154	5.9	110,072	7.3
65 years and over	1,220,775	61,050	5.0	54,830	4.5

[1] On the assumption that none of the women in continental United States reported as engaged in agricultural pursuits in 1900 were living in cities of more than 50,000 inhabitants.

The rise after the age of 35 in the percentage engaged in agriculture counterbalances the fall in the percentage engaged in other pursuits, so that the percentage for the two groups combined remains practically stationary, thereby producing the contrast between city and country pointed out and commented upon in connection with Table XI.

In Table XIII the comparison between city and country by age periods corresponding to that presented for the total female population in Table XI is shown separately for each of the race and nativity classes.

In every age period except the oldest the percentages are uniformly higher in the city than in the country; and the exceptions in the oldest age period appear only for the two classes of native white women, being another indication of the extent to which widows living in the country—most of them native white—are engaged in farming.

Table XIII also brings out the fact that after the age of 35 the percentages of breadwinners for native white women of native parentage approximate or exceed those for the white women of foreign birth or foreign parentage in the city as well as in the country. For the country the explanation may again be found in the extent to which the native white women of native parentage engage in farming. But of course this explanation does not apply to the city, where the comparison by race and nativity shows the same general difference in the percentage of breadwinners among women of older years. It may be that in the city as well as in the country some of the principal occupations which are peculiar to the native white women of native parentage are such as can be followed late in life more readily than pursuits in which the foreign born women or their daughters are ordinarily engaged. At the same time the difference suggests the possibility that marriage and the cares of a family are more apt to interfere with the pursuit of a breadwinning occupation among women of foreign birth or foreign parentage than among the native white women of native parentage.

[1] See Table 17, page 162.

TABLE XIII.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by age, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—					
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	1,694,953	413,348	24.4	10,400,007	1,353,262	13.0
16 to 20 years	270,486	106,019	39.2	1,821,652	328,803	18.0
21 to 24 years	221,158	80,680	36.5	1,269,115	237,360	18.7
25 to 34 years	445,024	111,080	25.0	2,415,582	287,968	11.9
35 to 44 years	307,301	59,550	19.4	1,807,925	184,798	10.2
45 to 54 years	213,804	33,626	15.7	1,376,636	148,480	10.8
55 to 64 years	135,136	16,330	12.1	946,295	104,262	11.0
65 years and over	102,044	6,063	5.9	762,802	61,561	8.1
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	1,699,173	554,507	32.6	2,586,515	535,412	20.7
16 to 20 years	331,759	179,401	54.1	530,778	165,621	31.2
21 to 24 years	272,884	126,385	46.3	384,579	121,817	31.7
25 to 34 years	551,706	154,826	28.1	772,995	142,942	18.5
35 to 44 years	344,203	65,654	19.1	524,191	65,028	12.4
45 to 54 years	135,992	21,152	15.6	230,153	25,751	11.2
55 to 64 years	44,545	5,751	12.9	93,441	10,224	10.9
65 years and over	18,084	1,338	7.4	51,278	4,029	7.9
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	2,091,773	492,727	23.6	2,302,977	344,983	15.0
16 to 20 years	178,776	118,097	66.1	160,573	74,720	46.5
21 to 24 years	199,802	95,326	47.7	172,612	59,417	34.4
25 to 34 years	534,651	125,723	23.5	486,038	76,409	15.7
35 to 44 years	442,106	71,418	16.2	471,468	47,746	10.1
45 to 54 years	333,584	46,166	13.8	401,483	39,903	9.9
55 to 64 years	232,122	25,137	10.8	324,888	29,397	9.0
65 years and over	170,672	10,860	6.4	285,915	17,391	6.1
	NEGRO.					
Total	351,792	192,329	54.7	2,214,542	918,228	41.5
16 to 20 years	54,426	30,761	56.5	476,712	232,632	48.8
21 to 24 years	53,218	31,707	59.6	333,572	144,617	43.4
25 to 34 years	101,855	54,671	53.7	537,504	212,271	39.5
35 to 44 years	68,851	37,431	54.4	360,591	141,371	39.2
45 to 54 years	40,511	23,078	57.0	253,177	100,945	39.9
55 to 64 years	19,459	10,243	52.6	138,120	54,291	39.3
65 years and over	13,472	4,438	32.9	114,866	32,101	27.9
	INDIAN AND MONGOLIAN.					
Total	2,630	607	23.1	68,036	10,532	15.5
16 to 20 years	411	89	21.7	12,278	1,824	14.9
21 to 24 years	539	98	18.2	7,052	1,040	14.7
25 to 34 years	834	177	21.2	15,327	2,275	14.8
35 to 44 years	446	127	28.5	12,084	1,909	15.8
45 to 54 years	282	90	31.9	9,361	1,634	17.5
55 to 64 years	85	18	(1)	6,020	1,052	17.5
65 years and over	33	8	(1)	5,914	798	13.5

[1] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

In the percentages for negro women the most noticeable peculiarity, apart from the fact that they are exceptionally large, is the absence of any marked or uniform decline with advancing years. In old age, 65 and over, there is, it is true, a marked reduction, but there is none before that. In the city, however, there is a slight decline in the normal period of early married life, 25 to 34 years, followed by an increase thereafter.

Comparisons with earlier censuses.—The number of breadwinners among women in continental United States, as reported by the census, increased from 2,353,988 in 1880 to 4,833,630 in 1900, an increase in twenty years of 2,479,642, or 105.3 per cent. In part this increase was the natural accompaniment of the increase in population, but in part it represents the increasing participation of women in gainful occupations. The latter change is measured statistically by the percentage which the women who are breadwinners form of the total number of women. The following tabular statement gives the percentages at the censuses of 1880, 1890, and 1900, and for purposes of comparison includes the corresponding figures for men:

CENSUS.	MALES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			FEMALES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States:						
1900	24,851,013	22,489,425	90.5	23,485,559	4,833,630	20.6
1890	20,133,514	18,217,797	90.5	18,957,672	3,596,615	19.0
1880	15,359,866	13,919,755	90.6	14,752,258	2,353,988	16.0

As shown by the above statement, the percentage of breadwinners among women increased from 16 in 1880 to 20.6 in 1900, which means that in 1880, 1 woman in every 6 was a breadwinner and in 1900, 1 in every 5. The increase was somewhat more marked in the first half of the twenty-year period than in the second.

If the percentage had been no higher in 1900 than it was in 1880, the number of women who were breadwinners in 1900 would not have exceeded 3,757,689, but it was, in fact, greater than that by 1,075,941. The increase between 1880 and 1900 in the number of women who were breadwinners might be analyzed as follows:

Number of women who were breadwinners:	
1900	4,833,630
1880	2,353,988
Increase 1880 to 1900	2,479,642
Attributable to growth of population	1,403,701
Attributable to increase in proportion of women following breadwinning pursuits	1,075,941

It would seem, then, that there were 1,075,941 women engaged in gainful occupations in the year 1900 who would not have taken up such occupation had the conditions and tendencies remained the same as they were twenty years before. This statement, however, is true only if the "conditions" referred to are understood to include the character and composition of the population. For in considering the significance of the increase in the percentage of breadwinners the fact should not be overlooked that this increase might not necessarily involve any change in the habits of any one class of population. It might conceivably result simply from a change in the composition of the population consisting of an increase in the relative importance of those race and nativity classes—such as the negro and the native white of foreign parentage—in which the proportion of breadwinners among women has always been relatively large. It might also be due in part to a change in the age composition of the population affecting the relative numerical importance of young women in the total population. In order, therefore, to determine more precisely the significance of the change, the comparison should be made by race and nativity classes and also by age groups. This comparison, however, must be confined to the period 1890 to 1900, since the analysis of the figures published in the Census report of 1880 is not sufficiently detailed for this purpose. Moreover, in order to obtain comparable figures, it is necessary to lower the minimum age by one year, so that the totals include all women 15 years of age and over. Table XIV shows this comparison, by race and nativity.

TABLE XIV.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the male and female population 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
	MALE.					
All classes	25,620,399	22,878,499	89.5	20,777,872	18,420,504	88.7
Native white—both parents native	13,088,058	11,464,896	87.6	10,880,185	9,386,058	86.3
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,403,211	4,000,387	89.8	3,073,413	2,675,730	87.1
Foreign born white	5,257,359	4,827,273	91.8	4,580,589	4,298,140	93.8
Negro	2,633,008	2,424,646	92.1	2,119,721	1,944,665	91.7
Indian and Mongolian	178,763	152,297	85.2	123,964	115,911	93.5
	FEMALE.					
All classes	24,249,191	4,997,415	20.6	19,602,178	3,712,144	18.9
Native white—both parents native	12,561,813	1,824,690	14.5	10,530,675	1,310,148	12.4
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,475,907	1,137,649	25.4	3,064,321	774,751	25.3
Foreign born white	4,445,332	861,274	19.4	3,809,910	756,006	19.8
Negro	2,690,583	1,162,218	43.2	2,175,550	867,717	39.9
Indian and Mongolian	75,556	11,584	15.3	21,713	3,522	16.2

The above table indicates that the increase in the per-

centage of breadwinners among women was practically confined to the native white of native parentage and to the negro. The more marked increase on the whole was that shown by the native white of native parentage. In 1890 the proportion of breadwinners among women in this class of the population was 12.4 per cent, or approximately one in eight; in 1900 it was 14.5 per cent, or more than one in seven. The percentage for the native white of foreign parentage shows practically no change, while that for the foreign born white shows a slight decrease, and that for the Indian and Mongolian—a class which is numerically unimportant—shows a rather marked decrease. The exact nature of the changes that are taking place will be more apparent, however, when the classification by race and nativity is combined with a classification by age, as in Table XV.

TABLE XV.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 15 years of age and over, classified by age, race, and nativity, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.					
Total	24,249,191	4,997,415	20.6	19,602,178	3,712,144	18.9
15 to 24 years	7,516,074	2,300,230	30.6	6,400,635	1,853,460	29.0
25 to 34 years	5,860,616	1,168,342	19.9	4,682,432	807,670	17.2
35 to 44 years	4,339,166	675,032	15.6	3,346,031	441,067	13.2
45 to 54 years	2,994,983	440,825	14.7	2,430,878	313,363	12.9
55 to 64 years	1,940,111	256,705	13.2	1,499,997	180,387	12.0
65 years and over	1,525,080	138,587	9.1	1,183,569	98,158	8.3
Age unknown	73,161	17,694	24.2	58,636	18,039	30.8
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	12,561,813	1,824,690	14.5	10,530,675	1,310,148	12.4
15 to 24 years	4,014,063	805,616	20.1	3,362,544	596,796	17.7
25 to 34 years	2,860,666	399,048	13.9	2,397,797	274,481	11.4
35 to 44 years	2,115,226	244,348	11.6	1,828,798	167,436	9.2
45 to 54 years	1,590,440	182,106	11.5	1,352,503	133,153	9.8
55 to 64 years	1,081,431	120,592	11.2	846,819	84,049	9.9
65 years and over	864,846	67,624	7.8	713,592	47,867	6.7
Age unknown	35,201	5,356	15.2	28,622	6,366	22.2
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	4,475,907	1,137,649	25.4	3,064,321	774,751	25.3
15 to 24 years	1,706,938	640,129	37.5	1,496,705	523,902	35.0
25 to 34 years	1,323,801	297,768	22.5	922,681	176,957	19.2
35 to 44 years	868,394	130,682	15.0	387,445	46,756	12.1
45 to 54 years	366,145	46,903	12.8	152,880	16,649	10.9
55 to 64 years	137,986	15,975	11.6	57,995	6,186	10.7
65 years and over	69,362	5,367	7.7	42,729	3,094	7.2
Age unknown	3,281	825	25.1	3,886	1,207	31.1
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	4,445,332	861,274	19.4	3,809,919	756,006	19.8
15 to 24 years	753,661	368,823	48.9	704,787	355,442	50.4
25 to 34 years	1,020,689	202,132	19.8	862,915	170,791	19.8
35 to 44 years	913,574	119,164	13.0	761,969	91,612	12.0
45 to 54 years	735,067	86,069	11.7	680,582	71,497	10.5
55 to 64 years	557,010	54,534	9.8	470,192	43,996	9.4
65 years and over	456,587	28,251	6.2	321,487	19,669	6.1
Age unknown	8,744	2,301	26.3	7,987	2,999	37.5

TABLE XV.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 15 years of age and over, classified by age, race, and nativity, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890*—Continued.

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—continued.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
	NEGRO.					
Total	2,690,583	1,162,218	43.2	2,175,550	867,717	39.9
15 to 24 years	1,018,523	482,315	47.4	830,016	376,284	45.3
25 to 34 years	639,359	266,942	41.8	494,123	184,633	37.4
35 to 44 years	429,442	178,802	41.6	363,723	134,581	37.0
45 to 54 years	293,688	124,023	42.2	242,378	91,639	37.8
55 to 64 years	157,579	64,534	41.0	123,559	45,928	37.2
65 years and over	128,338	36,539	28.5	104,373	27,337	26.2
Age unknown	23,654	9,063	38.3	17,378	7,315	42.1
	INDIAN AND MONGOLIAN.					
Total	75,556	11,584	15.3	21,713	3,522	16.2
15 to 24 years	22,889	3,347	14.6	6,583	1,036	15.7
25 to 34 years	16,161	2,452	15.2	4,916	808	16.4
35 to 44 years	12,530	2,036	16.2	4,096	682	16.7
45 to 54 years	9,643	1,724	17.9	2,535	425	16.8
55 to 64 years	6,105	1,070	17.5	1,432	228	15.9
65 years and over	5,947	806	13.6	1,388	191	13.8
Age unknown	2,281	149	6.5	763	152	19.9

It may be noted that the comparison for a given age period between the proportion of breadwinners in 1890 and that in 1900 is virtually a comparison between two successive generations of women at the same period of their life history. For instance, the women who were 35 to 44 years of age in 1890 were the survivors of the generation born in the decade 1845 to 1855; while those 35 to 44 years of age in 1900 were the survivors of the next younger generation—that born in the decade 1855 to 1865.[1] The figures presented in Table XV show that when the older of these generations reached the age period 35 to 44 years in 1890, 13.2 per cent of their number were employed in breadwinning pursuits. When the younger generation

[1] At the census of 1890 the age question called for the age at the nearest birthday; but at the census of 1900 it called for the age at the last birthday. Each census was taken as of June 1, so that if the age returns conformed strictly with the requirements of the age question persons reported as being from 35 to 44 years of age at the census of 1890 must have been born between December 1, 1845, and December 1, 1855, while those reported in that age period at the census of 1900 must have been born between June 1, 1855, and June 1, 1865. Theoretically, therefore, persons reported at any given year of age or age period in the census of 1890 were as a group half a year younger than were those reported at the same age in 1900. In making the above comparisons by age periods this difference in the form of the age question has not been forgotten. But it has been ignored, partly because a difference of half a year in comparisons by ten-year age groups would have little effect on the results, and partly because, in the opinion of the writer, it seems doubtful whether the enumerators at the census of 1890 generally returned the age at the nearest rather than that at the last birthday. This doubt arises from the fact that the latter method of making age returns is the normal method, or the one in common use. Therefore it seems uncertain whether the actual difference in the age returns between the censuses of 1890 and 1900 was in fact as great as the difference in the form of the age question would imply.

reached this same age period in 1900 the proportion of breadwinners included in their ranks was 15.6. Thus the younger generation was engaged in breadwinning pursuits to a greater extent than the older was at the same period of life; and in general the table shows that each successive generation of women have taken up gainful occupations to a greater extent than the preceding generation did. The only notable exception appears in the figures for the foreign born white in the youngest age period—these figures indicating that the immigrant women who were born in the decade 1865 to 1875 and had migrated to this country prior to the census of 1890 were employed in breadwinning pursuits to a greater extent when they were 15 to 24 years of age than those of the next younger generation—born in the decade 1875 to 1885 and migrating to this country prior to 1900—were when they reached the same period of life.

Recurring to the figures for the native white of foreign parentage it will be found that, although the total as already noted shows no increase of any consequence in the percentage of breadwinners, each age group taken separately shows a very considerable increase. This increase in the percentage for the several age periods did not produce any appreciable increase in the percentage for the total, simply because the relative importance of the youngest age group—15 to 24 years—in which the percentage of breadwinners is much the largest, declined very materially during the ten-year period, so that it had less influence on the total in 1900 than in 1890. In 1890 it comprised almost one-half of the total number of women in this class; in 1900, less than two-fifths.

In the case of the foreign born white the decline in the percentage for the total was accompanied and in part caused by a decline in the percentage for the youngest age group.

For the two other principal classes of population—the native white of native parentage and the negro—the percentage increased in every age period as well as in the total.

Table XVI gives the proportion of breadwinners in 1890 and in 1900 for the female population 15 years of age and over, classified by marital condition. The increase in the percentage of breadwinners was most marked for married women, the percentage for this marital class being greater by almost one-fourth in 1900 than it was in 1890. In 1890, 1 married woman in 22 was a breadwinner; in 1900, 1 in 18. The percentages for the other classes show a greater absolute increase, but none show a greater relative increase. The increase in the percentage of single women employed as breadwinners was confined to the native white population, the foreign born white and negro showing practically no change in this respect. On the other hand, the extent to which married women are engaged in breadwinning pursuits increased in all classes of the population. The percentage of breadwinners among widows increased in every class of the population except the foreign born white.

TABLE XVI.—*Number and percentage of breadwinners in the female population 15 years of age and over, classified by race, nativity, and marital condition, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900 and 1890.*

Marital condition.	Female population 15 years of age and over.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Breadwinners.		Total.	Breadwinners.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
	All classes.					
Total	24,293,163	5,007,069	20.6	19,602,178	3,712,144	18.9
Single[1]	7,614,610	3,309,665	43.5	6,250,912	2,531,548	40.5
Married	13,842,180	775,924	5.6	11,124,785	515,124	4.6
Widowed	2,721,438	857,922	31.5	2,154,598	630,257	29.3
Divorced	114,935	63,558	55.3	71,883	35,215	49.0
	Native white—both parents native.					
Total	12,574,963	1,825,850	14.5	10,530,675	1,310,148	12.4
Single[1]	3,918,599	1,230,803	31.4	3,233,405	889,722	27.5
Married	7,259,967	217,565	3.0	6,132,027	135,881	2.2
Widowed	1,333,719	347,736	26.1	1,120,959	265,679	23.7
Divorced	62,678	29,746	47.5	44,284	18,866	42.6
	Native white—one or both parents foreign born.					
Total	4,478,720	1,138,129	25.4	3,064,321	774,751	25.3
Single[1]	1,990,539	977,094	49.1	1,562,788	693,373	44.4
Married	2,214,414	69,065	3.1	1,357,712	36,375	2.7
Widowed	257,107	83,154	32.3	135,959	41,236	30.3
Divorced	16,660	8,816	52.9	7,862	3,767	47.9
	Foreign born white.					
Total	4,450,699	861,963	19.4	3,809,919	756,006	19.8
Single[1]	875,547	607,791	69.4	791,040	557,116	70.4
Married	2,859,665	102,416	3.6	2,435,046	72,617	3.0
Widowed	702,953	145,315	20.7	574,854	122,249	21.3
Divorced	12,534	6,441	51.4	8,979	4,024	44.8
	Negro.					
Total	2,690,652	1,162,250	43.2	2,175,550	867,717	39.9
Single[1]	810,647	490,358	60.5	657,234	389,668	59.3
Married	1,443,859	376,114	26.0	1,187,434	269,169	22.7
Widowed	414,110	277,656	67.0	320,194	200,350	62.6
Divorced	22,036	18,122	82.2	10,688	8,530	79.8
	Indian and Mongolian.					
Total	98,129	18,877	19.2	21,713	3,522	16.2
Single[1]	19,278	3,619	18.8	6,445	1,669	25.9
Married	64,275	10,764	16.7	12,566	1,082	8.6
Widowed	13,549	4,061	30.0	2,632	743	28.2
Divorced	1,027	433	42.2	70	28	(2)

[1] Including unknown.
[2] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Adoption and abandonment of occupations.—Reference has been made to the probability that only a minority of the women who appear in the census as breadwinners remain in this class throughout their active lives. Some indication of the extent to which their employment in gainful occupations is temporary may be derived from a comparison of the number of

female breadwinners reported in each ten-year age period in 1900 with the number reported in the next younger age period in 1890. Of course all persons who were alive at the date of both censuses were just ten years older at the later census than they were at the preceding one. It is true that many of those who were enumerated at the later census may not have been enumerated at the earlier, but this applies chiefly to the foreign born or immigrants, many of whom doubtless were not in this country at the date of the earlier census. The value of the comparison, therefore, will not be seriously impaired by this circumstance if it is confined to the native population. For as regards the native population, it may be assumed that nearly everybody over 10 years of age enumerated in 1900 was also enumerated in 1890, being, of course, just ten years younger at the earlier census. In effect this becomes a comparison of the figures for the same generation at the beginning and the end of a decade.

The kind of comparison referred to consists in estimating the decennial decrease in the ranks of the breadwinners produced by death and emigration, on the assumption that it would be the same for breadwinners as it is for the total female population in the same age group, and then comparing the result with the actual decrease, or possibly increase, as shown by the Census enumeration. The difference is assumed to represent the decrease or the increase resulting from the adoption and abandonment of breadwinning occupations during the ten-year interval. For example, there were 3,362,544 native white women of native parentage between the ages of 15 and 24 in 1890, and 596,796 of these women were engaged in gainful occupations. In the ensuing ten years the number of women in this group was, of course, reduced by deaths, and to some slight extent, perhaps, by emigration. When the census of 1900 was taken those still living and still in this country were in the age period 25 to 34 years. The number of native white women of native parentage enumerated in that age period at that census was, in fact, 2,860,606, a reduction of 14.9 per cent compared with the number 15 to to 24 years of age in 1890. This percentage represents approximately the decennial death rate in this class of population. The same percentage of reduction in the number engaged in occupations would have left 507,710 in 1900.[1] This may be assumed to represent approximately the number of women in this age class who had an occupation in 1890 and were still living in 1900. But the number reported as having a gainful occupation in 1900 was less than this by 108,662, being only 399,048. So it is safe to conclude that at least 108,622 of the native white women of native parentage 15 to 24 years of age reported as gainfully employed at the census of 1890 gave up their occupations before the census of 1900 was taken. But this is only the minimum number. The actual number was unquestionably much above this limit, because the reduction in the ranks of this group of breadwinners resulting from the abandonment of occupations before 1900 would be partially counterbalanced and covered up by the addition of new recruits taking up occupations after 1890. The difference—108,622—obtained by the above computation is therefore the net decrease resulting from changes other than those caused by death, and may be regarded as representing approximately the number giving up an occupation over and above the number adopting one in the interval between 1890 and 1900.

The results obtained by making the computation here described are presented in Table XVII, the computation having been made for each age group separately in each of the two classes of the native white female population and the figures for the total native white obtained by adding these results.

In 1890 the number of native white women in continental United States 15 to 24 years of age reported as having a gainful occupation was 1,120,698. In the ensuing ten years the group of breadwinners in this generation of women was reduced to 696,816—a reduction of 423,882. The loss from deaths is estimated at 149,609 and the net loss from the adoption and abandonment of occupations at 274,273, the latter representing 24.5 per cent, or almost one-fourth of the women who had an occupation at the beginning of the decade, and 28.2 per cent of the estimated number[2] of those who had an occupation at the beginning of the decade and were still living at the end of the decade. Since the number that actually gave up their breadwinning pursuits in the interval must have been considerably in excess of this net reduction—which, as already explained, represents only the difference between the number giving up an occupation and the number adopting one—it seems a very conservative conclusion that not less than one-half of the native white women who were breadwinners 15 to 24 years of age in 1890 and were still living in 1900 had given up their gainful occupations in the interval.

[1] To obtain this result the exact percentage was used, the fraction being expressed as a common fraction and not as a decimal.

[2] Obtained by subtracting the estimated deaths from the reported number of breadwinners at the beginning of the decade.

TABLE XVII.—COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF NATIVE WHITE FEMALE BREADWINNERS IN SPECIFIED AGE PERIODS REPORTED AT CENSUSES OF 1890 AND 1900, WITH ESTIMATE OF THE DECREASE RESULTING FROM DEATHS AND OF THE INCREASE OR DECREASE RESULTING FROM THE ADOPTION AND ABANDONMENT OF OCCUPATIONS, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

AGE PERIOD.		FEMALE BREADWINNERS.					
		Number enumerated.		Increase (+) or decrease (−), 1890 to 1900.			
					Estimated as resulting from—		
1890	1900	1890	1900	Total.	Deaths or migration.	Adoption and abandonment of occupation.	
						Number.	Per cent.
		NATIVE WHITE.					
15 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	1,120,698	696,816	−423,882	−149,609	−274,273	−24.5
25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	451,438	375,030	−76,408	−42,758	−33,650	−7.5
35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	214,192	229,009	+14,817	−24,393	+39,210	+18.3
45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	149,802	136,567	−13,235	−28,309	+15,074	+10.1
55 years and over	65 years and over	141,196	72,991	−68,205	−61,692	−6,513	−4.6
		NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
15 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	596,796	399,048	−197,748	−89,086	−108,662	−18.2
25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	274,481	244,348	−30,133	−32,347	+2,214	+0.8
35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	167,436	182,106	+14,670	−21,823	+36,493	+21.8
45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	133,153	120,592	−12,561	−26,687	+14,126	+10.6
55 years and over	65 years and over	131,916	67,624	−64,292	−58,803	−5,489	−4.2
		NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
15 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	523,902	297,768	−226,134	−60,523	−165,611	−31.6
25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	176,957	130,682	−46,275	−10,411	−35,864	−20.3
35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	46,756	46,903	+147	−2,570	+2,717	+5.8
45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	16,649	15,975	−674	−1,622	+948	+5.7
55 years and over	65 years and over	9,280	5,367	−3,913	−2,889	−1,024	−11.0

The tendency during the next ten years, or in the period of early middle life, is indicated by a comparison of the figures for the native white women who were 25 to 34 years of age in 1890 and 35 to 44 years of age in 1900. Here the estimated reduction in the number of breadwinners through the abandonment of occupations was not so great, the net loss being 33,650, or 7.5 per cent. During the next ten years of life the tide turns in the other direction, the number of women adopting occupations being so great as to more than make good the losses through death and the abandonment of occupations. This is shown by the fact that the number of breadwinners in the generation of native women 35 to 44 years of age in 1890 actually increased from 214,192 in 1890 to 229,009 in 1900, and the computation in the above table indicating that not less than 39,210, or 17.1 per cent of those who had an occupation in 1900 had entered the ranks of the breadwinners since 1890. This phenomenon is of course indicative of the fact that many women in middle life, being suddenly thrown upon their own resources by the death of husband or father or other relative are compelled to become breadwinners. There is little doubt, however, that a large proportion of these women who join the ranks of the breadwinners in middle life are the widows of farmers, who take up the occupation of their deceased husbands. This inference is confirmed by the fact that the increase as shown by the above table is much greater for the native white of native parentage than for the native white of foreign parentage.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.

With a view to obtaining some light upon the home life and associations of the women who are engaged in gainful occupations, a special tabulation has been prepared, classifying female breadwinners by their relationship to the family in which they live.

The data for this tabulation were obtained from the entries on the population schedule designating the head of each family and defining the relationship to the head of all other persons in the family, the relationship being indicated by such terms as "wife," "daughter," "son," "niece," "boarder," "servant," etc. Female breadwinners have been classified with respect to the relationship indicated by these returns in five classes. The first class comprises those who were returned as "heads of families;" the second those "living with father," that is, in a family of which the head as returned on the schedule was the father of the breadwinner; the third, those similarly "living with mother;" the fourth, those "living with other relatives," which includes married women living with their husbands; and the fifth, those returned as "boarders," which includes those living with their employer. The first

four of these classes—comprising the breadwinners who are either heads of families or are living with father, mother, or other relative—may be appropriately designated as the classes living at home in distinction from the boarders and those living with employer. The fact should be noted, however, that the boarders may not always be separated from their relatives or other members of their family, but may represent cases in which an entire family is boarding together. Such cases have not been segregated in this tabulation. But an inspection of the schedules indicates that they are comparatively few; so that it may be assumed that the great majority of the breadwinners comprised in this class are what may be termed solitary boarders.

As already stated, breadwinners living with their employers have been included with boarders. This classification seems not inappropriate from an economic point of view, since the board in such cases constitutes a part of the breadwinner's compensation, so that she may be regarded as a boarder paying for her board by a part of the value of her services. Probably few female breadwinners other than servants, housekeepers, and nurses live with their employers.

The tabulation here described was made for the female breadwinners 16 years of age and over comprised in the population of 27 cities. The cities selected were those in which there were the largest numbers of women engaged in gainful occupations. The list includes all cities having over 150,000 inhabitants in 1900 with the exception of San Francisco, which was omitted because of the radical change of conditions produced in that city by the earthquake of 1906. The list includes also four smaller cities, namely, Paterson, N. J.; Fall River, Mass.; Lowell, Mass.; and Atlanta, Georgia.

The total number of female breadwinners 16 years of age and over living in these 27 cities was 1,232,268, which is a little more than one-fourth of the total number (4,833,630) in continental United States. Their classification by relationship to the family in which they lived is shown in the following tabular statement:

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN 27 SELECTED CITIES: 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	1,232,268	100.0
Living at home	798,711	64.8
Heads of families	146,902	11.9
Living with father	323,763	26.3
Living with mother	149,770	12.2
Living with other relative	178,276	14.5
Boarding[1]	433,557	35.2

[1] Includes those living with employer.

Of the total number of women comprised in this tabulation, 433,557, or more than one-third (35.2 per cent), were returned as boarders, including those boarding with their employer. More than one-fourth were classified as living with father, which means that they were returned on the schedule as living in a family the head of which was the father of the breadwinners, so that this class naturally includes those living in the same household with father and mother as well as those living with father alone. The number living with mother, which was about one-half of the number living with father, represents the cases in which the mother was returned as the head of the family. Probably in the great majority of these cases the mother was a widow. The "other relative" with whom 178,276 of these breadwinners lived was in many instances the husband of the breadwinner. The total number of married breadwinners returned as living with "other relative" was, in fact, 66,368; but of course the "other relative" may not in all cases have been the husband.

In Table XVIII the classification by family relationship is combined with a classification by race and nativity.

TABLE XVIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR TWENTY-SEVEN SELECTED CITIES: 1900.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN 27 SELECTED CITIES.									
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	1,232,268	100.0	279,013	100.0	424,552	100.0	393,682	100.0	134,945	100.0
Living at home	798,711	64.8	184,676	66.2	333,793	78.6	200,083	50.8	80,137	59.4
Heads of families	146,902	11.9	31,975	11.5	31,496	7.4	53,780	13.7	29,641	22.0
Living with father	323,763	26.3	76,869	27.6	167,954	39.6	69,177	17.6	9,762	7.2
Living with mother	149,770	12.2	36,227	13.0	81,966	19.4	22,395	5.7	9,177	6.8
Living with other relative	178,276	14.5	39,605	14.2	52,377	12.3	54,731	13.9	31,557	23.4
Boarding[1]	433,557	35.2	94,337	33.8	90,759	21.4	193,599	49.2	54,808	40.6

[1] Includes those living with employer.

It should be remembered that more than one-fourth of the total number of breadwinners included in this classification were servants and waitresses. Since a large proportion of these lived with their employers, and were therefore classified with the boarders, it is evident that their inclusion in the totals increased very much the relative importance of the boarder group, and that the proportion of boarders among breadwinners in any class of the population would be determined to a considerable extent by the proportion of servants comprised in that class. This is the explanation of the large proportion of negro women in this group (40.6 per cent) and foreign born whites (49.2 per cent). In many respects, the distribution is more significant when servants, whose position in this classification is to a large extent determined by the nature of their occupation, are segregated from the other breadwinners, as is done in the following tabular statement:

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN 27 SELECTED CITIES: 1900.					
	Total.		Servants and waitresses.		All other occupations.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	1,232,268	100.0	327,573	100.0	904,695	100.0
Living at home	798,711	64.8	67,046	20.5	731,665	80.9
Heads of families	146,902	11.9	16,177	4.9	130,725	14.4
Living with father	323,763	26.3	18,808	5.7	304,955	33.7
Living with mother	149,770	12.2	9,772	3.0	139,998	15.5
Living with other relative	178,276	14.5	22,289	6.8	155,987	17.2
Boarding [1]	433,557	35.2	260,527	79.5	173,030	19.1

[1] Includes those living with employer.

By excluding servants the percentage of boarders in the total number of breadwinners is reduced from 35.2 to 19.1, and the relative importance of the other groups is correspondingly increased. The change produced in the percentages for each race and nativity class is shown by Table XIX, in which the distribution by family relationship is presented for breadwinners, exclusive of servants and waitresses, classified by race and nativity and also by marital condition.

Table XIX shows that the proportion of breadwinners (exclusive of servants and waitresses) who are boarding is larger for the native white women of native parentage than for any other class. When, however, the comparison is confined to single women, the percentage of boarders for the native white of native parentage, though much larger than that for the native white of foreign parentage, is slightly smaller than that for the foreign born and considerably smaller than that for negroes.

Doubtless many of the women of native birth who are breadwinners in the city have migrated from the country in order to avail themselves of the larger opportunities for employment which the city usually offers. Such a migration quite commonly involves a separation from parents and other relatives and consequently leads to boarding. It is not improbable that this cityward migration may be even more general among the negro women than among the native white women of native parentage; and as regards the single white women of foreign birth, doubtless many of them parted from their families when they came to this country, which would account for the fact that the percentage of boarders is large in this group also. On the other hand, it is hardly possible that many of the children of immigrants have taken part in this cityward migration, because most of the immigrants from foreign countries settle in cities on their arrival in the United States. Therefore it is not surprising to find that the percentage of boarders among the single native white breadwinners of foreign parentage is exceptionally small.

It would perhaps be expected that the percentage of boarders would be higher among single women than among the married or the widowed and divorced. This proves to be true in a comparison for the aggregate number of breadwinners, although the differences are not very marked; it is also true, with greater contrasts, for the foreign born white and the negro. But among the native white of either native parentage or foreign parentage the percentage of boarders is somewhat higher for the widowed and divorced than it is for the single; and among the native white of foreign parentage it is higher for the married as well, the percentage for single women in this class being, as already noted, exceptionally small.

The percentage returned as living with parents—that is, with father or with mother—was naturally larger for breadwinners who are single, most of them being young women, than for the married or the widowed and divorced. Living with parents is for single women in early life the usual alternative to boarding; therefore it is not surprising to find that the native white of foreign parentage, being the class of single women having the smallest percentage of boarders, is also the class having the largest percentage living with parents. The probable explanation, as already suggested, is that migration to cities involving separation from parents is less usual in this class of the population than in the other race and nativity classes.

The number of single female breadwinners living with father is more than twice the number living with mother. "Living with mother" implies that the mother is either a widow or a divorced woman, or a wife living apart from her husband. Probably if the statistics were available it would be found that the proportion of breadwinners is greater among single women whose mothers are widows than among those whose fathers are living. But on the other hand as the great majority of single women are young women, it is probable that the total number whose fathers are still living greatly exceeds the total number whose mothers only are living, so that a relatively small percentage of breadwinners in the former class might easily represent a larger actual number of breadwinners than a large percentage in the class whose mothers are widows.

TABLE XIX.—DISTRIBUTION, BY FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES), CLASSIFIED BY MARITAL CONDITION, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR TWENTY-SEVEN SELECTED CITIES: 1900.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES).									
	All classes.[1]		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.									
Total	904,695	100.0	242,905	100.0	362,535	100.0	236,993	100.0	62,230	100.0
Living at home	731,665	80.9	178,397	73.4	318,110	87.7	183,512	77.4	51,628	83.0
Heads of families	130,725	14.4	30,644	12.6	29,680	8.2	49,222	20.8	21,171	34.0
Living with father	304,955	33.7	74,572	30.7	160,370	44.2	65,025	27.4	4,988	8.0
Living with mother	139,998	15.5	35,344	14.6	78,875	21.8	20,967	8.8	4,807	7.7
Living with other relative	155,987	17.2	37,837	15.6	49,185	13.6	48,298	20.4	20,662	33.2
Boarding[2]	173,030	19.1	64,508	26.6	44,425	12.3	53,481	22.6	10,602	17.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).									
Total	677,722	100.0	187,613	100.0	316,097	100.0	155,475	100.0	18,524	100.0
Living at home	543,317	80.2	137,622	73.4	278,869	88.2	113,794	73.2	13,028	70.3
Heads of families	31,626	4.7	8,812	4.7	10,136	3.2	9,553	6.1	3,125	16.9
Living with father	294,571	43.5	71,697	38.2	156,402	49.5	62,652	40.3	3,820	20.6
Living with mother	131,007	19.3	32,835	17.5	75,166	23.8	19,525	12.6	3,479	18.8
Living with other relative	86,113	12.7	24,278	12.9	37,165	11.8	22,064	14.2	2,604	14.1
Boarding[2]	134,405	19.8	49,991	26.6	37,228	11.8	41,681	26.8	5,496	29.7
	MARRIED.									
Total	97,477	100.0	21,358	100.0	18,807	100.0	34,846	100.0	22,456	100.0
Living at home	82,725	84.9	16,167	75.7	15,905	84.6	30,342	87.1	20,305	90.4
Heads of families	15,712	16.1	3,690	17.3	3,124	16.6	5,699	16.4	3,197	14.2
Living with father	5,543	5.7	1,446	6.8	1,934	10.3	1,438	4.1	725	3.2
Living with mother	3,535	3.6	906	4.2	1,364	7.3	593	1.7	670	3.0
Living with other relative	57,935	59.4	10,125	47.4	9,483	50.4	22,612	64.9	15,713	70.0
Boarding[2]	14,752	15.1	5,191	24.3	2,902	15.4	4,504	12.9	2,151	9.6
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.									
Total	129,496	100.0	33,934	100.0	27,631	100.0	46,672	100.0	21,250	100.0
Living at home	105,623	81.6	24,608	72.5	23,336	84.5	39,376	84.4	18,295	86.1
Heads of families	83,387	64.4	18,142	53.5	16,420	59.4	33,970	72.8	14,849	69.9
Living with father	4,841	3.7	1,420	4.2	2,034	7.4	935	2.0	443	2.1
Living with mother	5,456	4.2	1,603	4.7	2,345	8.5	849	1.8	658	3.1
Living with other relative	11,939	9.2	3,434	10.1	2,537	9.2	3,622	7.8	2,345	11.0
Boarding[2]	23,873	18.4	9,326	27.5	4,295	15.5	7,296	15.6	2,955	13.9

[1] Includes 32 Indian and Mongolian women, for whom figures are not shown separately in this table.
[2] Includes those living with employer

The widowed and divorced form the only marital class in which the number of breadwinners living with mother exceeds the number living with father. Most of the widowed and divorced are women who have reached middle life or advanced age. Three-fourths of the widows in the total population of the United States are over 45 years of age. While the proportion above that age is probably not so great among the widows who are breadwinners, yet without doubt most of them have reached the period of life when the chances are that one or both parents are no longer living. But if either parent is living, it is more apt to be the mother than the father, because the mother is usually younger than the father.[1] This probably explains in part why the number of widowed and divorced breadwinners living with mother exceeds the number living with father. But another reason may be found in the probability that a widowed mother is

[1] This probability is substantiated by the statistics of marital condition, which show that in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants widows outnumber widowers in the ratio of 3 to 1. There are several reasons for this excess of widows; one is found in the fact that in most marital unions the husband is older than the wife and therefore more likely to die first; another, in the fact that men remarry more often than women; a third, in the fact that women are longer lived than men.

less likely to be able to support a widowed daughter and more likely to need her assistance than a widowed or married father. Therefore the widowed daughter is more likely to become a breadwinner when her mother is the only parent living than she is when her father is living.

Most of the widows and divorced women who are breadwinners are, however, heads of families, the number in this class constituting 64.4 per cent, or two-thirds of the total number included in Table XIX. A widow or single woman keeping a boarding house would ordinarily be returned as head of a family even though she had no relatives living with her. Of the breadwinners who were single, only 4.7 per cent were returned as heads of families. For negro women, however, the percentage is much higher, being 16.9.

A married woman would not be classified as head of the family if she was living in the same household with her husband. The fact then that 16.1 per cent of the married women included in Table XIX were returned as heads of families means that at least that proportion—approximately 1 in 6—were living apart from their husbands. It can not be assumed, however, that this includes all the married women living apart from their husbands. For while the fact that a married woman is returned as living with father, that is, in a family or household of which the head is her father or perhaps her father-in-law, does not necessarily imply separation from her husband any more than the fact that she is returned as living with mother or as boarding, yet it is probable that a considerable number of these married women were in fact living apart from their husbands. To what extent this separation implies wife desertion or marital infelicity can not of course be determined from the census returns, as the occupation of the husband may have necessitated separation from his family.

Doubtless most of the married women living with their husbands and keeping house are comprised in the class returned as living with "other relative." This explains why the percentage living with "other relative" is much larger for the married than for any other marital class. It is smaller for the married white women who are of native birth and native parentage than it is for any other class of married women, while the percentage boarding is considerably larger for them than for any other class, and the percentage returned as "heads of families" slightly larger.

On the whole, then, the comparison here made suggests that a considerable proportion of the married women who are breadwinners are living apart from their husbands, and that the proportion is largest among the married white women of native birth and parentage. This would indicate that the adoption of a gainful occupation by a married woman is more frequently associated with a breaking up of the marriage relationship among the native white of native parentage than in the other classes of population.

Table XX shows for each of the selected cities what percentage of the total number of female breadwinners (not including servants and waitresses) 16 years of age and over in each class as defined by race, nativity, and marital status were returned as boarders. The cities are arranged in the order of rank as determined by the percentage shown for the aggregate number.

The distinction of having the largest percentage belongs to St. Paul, Minn., in which city, according to the census returns, 33.6 per cent, or 1 in 3, of the total number of women (other than servants) following breadwinning pursuits in 1900 were boarding. In this city the percentage for the single breadwinners who are of native birth and parentage reaches 48.6, representing almost one-half of the total number. The next city in rank is Lowell, Mass., and the third is Minneapolis, Minn. It seems rather remarkable that Lowell and Fall River—both textile mill cities of about the same size and in the same state—should be so wide apart in rank, Lowell being, as just stated, the second city in this list, while Fall River is the nineteenth. Apparently the proportion of boarders is affected by varying local conditions and customs, and is not determined by any one feature alone such as size, locality, or composition of population.

It is evident, however, that in most of the populous metropolitan centers the proportion of boarders among the women who are breadwinners is relatively large, although not so large as it is in some of the smaller cities. Boston is the fourth city in the percentage of boarders, ranking next to Minneapolis. Philadelphia is the seventh city, but is outranked by Kansas City, Mo., and Washington, D. C. Chicago is the eighth city. The municipality comprised in Manhattan and Bronx boroughs, and representing what was formerly the city of New York, was eleventh in rank, coming below Detroit, Mich., and Rochester, N. Y., with a percentage of boarders not much smaller than that for Philadelphia and Chicago, but much less than that for Boston, Lowell, and the twin western cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The borough of Brooklyn and Jersey City and Newark, which are outlying cities in what is practically one large metropolitan area having Manhattan Island as its center, contain a comparatively small percentage of boarders in the working female population, Jersey City coming at the very foot of the list, while Brooklyn borough is twenty-third and Newark twenty-sixth.

TABLE XX.—PERCENTAGE[1] OF BOARDERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES), CLASSIFIED BY RACE, NATIVITY, AND MARITAL CONDITION, FOR EACH SELECTED CITY: 1900.

CITY.	PERCENTAGE OF BOARDERS[2] AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES).																			
	All classes.				Native white—								Foreign born white.				Negro.			
					Both parents native.				One or both parents foreign born.											
	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed and divorced.	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed and divorced.	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed and divorced.	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed and divorced.	Total.	Single (including unknown).	Married.	Widowed and divorced.
St. Paul, Minn	33.6	35.8	21.2	23.9	45.2	48.6	28.6	31.6	30.1	30.9	23.6	22.5	29.8	34.2	13.9	20.4	35.2	(3)	(3)	(3)
Lowell, Mass	31.9	32.1	31.3	31.9	38.0	37.6	37.7	39.9	19.3	18.0	26.3	24.8	37.0	39.8	31.3	30.0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Minneapolis, Minn	31.2	34.2	20.7	21.5	33.0	35.6	26.9	25.9	28.2	29.3	18.2	24.8	33.7	40.9	15.6	16.1	21.0	(3)	(3)	(3)
Boston, Mass	28.0	28.0	28.6	28.2	41.3	41.6	37.4	42.2	13.7	12.3	27.7	23.7	33.5	38.5	22.3	20.5	31.8	46.7	28.3	18.6
Kansas City, Mo	24.9	28.2	17.6	21.4	28.3	30.2	21.4	26.7	18.3	18.9	15.5	16.9	27.6	36.9	15.2	14.6	21.0	37.5	13.7	16.8
Washington, D. C.	23.3	28.6	11.9	22.0	30.5	31.4	23.2	30.9	20.0	19.7	14.8	24.7	31.5	44.7	16.4	19.6	16.3	26.8	8.7	16.0
Philadelphia, Pa	21.9	21.1	21.4	27.2	26.2	25.4	25.6	32.4	14.2	13.3	18.0	22.0	26.4	28.3	18.7	25.3	30.8	42.0	22.5	24.6
Chicago, Ill	21.1	21.4	18.5	20.9	35.7	37.4	28.1	33.1	13.3	12.6	19.4	18.5	20.8	24.3	11.1	14.6	29.1	49.3	18.3	21.1
Detroit, Mich	20.6	20.6	20.7	20.0	31.6	32.0	28.7	30.9	13.0	12.6	18.5	17.0	24.2	26.7	17.4	16.9	15.5	15.5	(3)	12.6
Rochester, N. Y	20.0	20.0	18.5	21.3	24.9	24.2	26.3	29.4	15.3	15.1	15.8	16.2	24.7	28.0	12.6	19.6	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
New York, N. Y.[4]	19.7	20.6	15.6	18.2	30.8	30.9	31.9	28.6	11.7	11.1	17.3	15.4	22.7	26.9	11.2	16.8	24.8	43.1	17.2	14.8
Indianapolis, Ind	19.1	21.1	10.2	17.5	21.8	23.8	11.5	20.4	14.6	14.9	11.6	13.4	22.2	30.3	9.5	12.3	14.7	23.8	7.4	15.3
Providence, R. I	18.9	18.4	18.2	22.7	24.3	23.0	24.3	30.6	11.6	10.7	18.8	19.5	24.4	27.2	16.9	18.3	15.5	27.2	8.2	13.9
Pittsburg, Pa	18.4	19.0	15.6	16.3	24.2	24.5	21.2	24.4	12.1	11.9	16.0	12.9	20.3	25.7	11.4	11.4	24.4	38.1	14.0	17.8
Buffalo, N. Y	17.3	18.1	12.9	15.2	23.1	23.3	18.2	25.1	12.0	12.0	11.9	12.2	21.2	26.1	8.9	12.5	33.1	(3)	(3)	(3)
St. Louis, Mo	16.4	16.9	12.8	16.6	23.8	24.1	20.3	24.8	11.1	10.7	11.1	14.3	19.3	27.1	8.9	11.7	19.1	35.0	11.0	15.5
Baltimore, Md	16.0	18.5	7.4	14.8	20.0	20.6	14.1	20.2	9.7	9.9	6.5	11.0	16.1	23.7	4.8	9.9	15.2	29.9	5.7	14.7
Cleveland, Ohio	15.7	15.9	13.9	15.7	27.0	28.1	22.9	24.3	9.5	9.0	12.8	14.3	16.2	19.5	8.5	11.2	20.2	29.2	16.3	14.7
Fall River, Mass	13.9	14.0	11.4	22.0	17.0	16.3	14.4	25.2	8.2	7.7	8.8	20.3	16.4	17.8	11.8	22.0	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Milwaukee, Wis	13.9	14.8	6.7	10.8	23.2	23.5	21.3	21.8	12.7	13.1	6.7	10.0	11.5	14.2	3.0	8.7	(3)	(3)	.....	.....
Louisville, Ky	13.5	15.1	7.4	12.8	17.6	18.1	10.2	18.0	9.2	8.9	9.7	11.3	18.0	28.2	5.7	8.4	12.8	22.5	6.5	11.4
Atlanta, Ga	12.9	20.0	5.7	9.5	20.9	22.7	14.7	19.8	11.7	10.8	(3)	(3)	31.4	(3)	(3)	(3)	8.2	16.9	3.5	5.9
Brooklyn borough, N. Y	12.8	12.8	12.2	13.3	17.8	17.1	21.4	20.8	8.0	7.6	10.6	11.4	16.8	21.2	8.9	11.1	18.6	28.0	14.2	13.2
New Orleans, La	12.6	16.5	7.2	10.6	15.9	16.4	17.3	13.8	10.3	10.9	9.0	9.0	16.5	40.4	11.6	9.1	11.5	20.4	5.5	10.7
Paterson, N. J	12.6	12.5	11.2	15.1	16.3	15.9	19.3	17.2	8.4	8.0	10.8	15.1	14.9	16.5	8.7	14.2	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Newark, N. J	12.1	12.0	12.4	12.3	16.0	15.4	16.5	20.6	8.4	8.1	13.5	9.1	14.3	17.3	8.7	9.6	15.0	22.3	13.3	10.1
Cincinnati, Ohio	11.7	12.2	8.2	11.0	15.7	15.6	13.4	17.7	8.4	8.4	7.4	8.6	15.7	23.4	4.9	9.1	13.9	25.3	7.2	10.1
Jersey City, N. J	10.8	10.5	10.9	12.4	13.0	12.3	15.1	18.1	7.2	6.9	6.4	12.3	16.5	21.5	10.1	9.7	21.3	(3)	(3)	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 28, page 218.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.
[4] Includes Manhattan and Bronx boroughs only.

The only two distinctively southern cities included in this comparison—Atlanta and New Orleans—come near the foot of the list, while Baltimore and St. Louis, cities in the borderland of the South, have an intermediate rank. The figures do not indicate that the presence of the negro very much affects the ranking of these cities. In other words, they would apparently have about the same rank in a comparison confined to the white population.

OTHER BREADWINNERS IN THE FAMILY.

Another tabulation which was prepared for the purposes of this report, and was also derived directly from the entries on the Twelfth Census schedules, classifies the women who were breadwinners and were living at home with respect to the number of other breadwinners in the families in which they lived. On this basis of classification the families were divided into four groups, namely, those having no other breadwinners, those having one other, those having two other, and those having more than two other. The other breadwinners include only those who were related to the woman who is herself a breadwinner and were living in the same household or family. Relatives living elsewhere could not be considered because the Census schedules furnish no means of identifying such relatives.

It was not possible therefore to compile similar data for those women who were living with their employers or boarding. Some of the latter, it is true, might have other members of their families boarding in the same house; but otherwise the facts regarding the members of the families to which they were related by ties of kinship could not be ascertained.

In Table XXI, summarizing the results of this tabulation, servants and waitresses have been excluded, in the belief that the comparison is rendered more significant if restricted to other breadwinners, who are for the most part engaged in occupations in which living with the employer is not customary.

TABLE XXI.—DISTRIBUTION, BY NUMBER OF OTHER BREADWINNERS IN THE FAMILY, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES), CLASSIFIED BY RACE, NATIVITY, AND MARITAL CONDITION, FOR TWENTY-SEVEN SELECTED CITIES: 1900.

CLASS.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (EXCLUSIVE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES).									
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.									
Total	904,695	100.0	242,905	100.0	362,535	100.0	236,993	100.0	62,230	100.0
Living at home	731,665	80.9	178,397	73.4	318,110	87.7	183,512	77.4	51,628	83.0
In families having—										
No other breadwinners	98,861	10.9	27,202	11.2	28,742	7.9	30,710	13.0	12,202	19.6
One other	218,415	24.1	59,426	24.5	81,288	22.4	57,633	24.3	20,063	32.2
Two other	188,089	20.8	47,848	19.7	86,933	24.0	43,090	18.2	10,215	16.4
More than two other	226,300	25.0	43,921	18.1	121,147	33.4	52,079	22.0	9,148	14.7
Boarding[1]	173,030	19.1	64,508	26.6	44,425	12.3	53,481	22.6	10,602	17.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).									
Total	677,722	100.0	187,613	100.0	316,097	100.0	155,475	100.0	18,524	100.0
Living at home	543,317	80.2	137,622	73.4	278,869	88.2	113,794	73.2	13,028	70.3
In families having—										
No other breadwinners	44,010	6.5	13,860	7.4	17,549	5.6	9,871	6.3	2,730	14.7
One other	141,880	20.9	43,015	22.9	66,333	21.0	28,983	18.6	3,548	19.2
Two other	155,423	22.9	41,288	22.0	79,599	25.2	31,385	20.2	3,151	17.0
More than two other	202,004	29.8	39,459	21.0	115,388	36.5	43,555	28.0	3,599	19.4
Boarding[1]	134,405	19.8	49,991	26.6	37,228	11.8	41,681	26.8	5,496	29.7
	MARRIED.									
Total	97,477	100.0	21,358	100.0	18,807	100.0	34,846	100.0	22,456	100.0
Living at home	82,725	84.9	16,167	75.7	15,905	84.6	30,342	87.1	20,305	90.4
In families having—										
No other breadwinners	11,026	11.3	2,764	12.9	2,411	12.8	3,838	11.0	2,011	9.0
One other	43,546	44.7	8,267	38.7	7,757	41.2	16,512	47.4	11,010	49.0
Two other	15,393	15.8	2,937	13.8	3,053	16.2	5,467	15.7	3,934	17.5
More than two other	12,760	13.1	2,199	10.3	2,684	14.3	4,525	13.0	3,350	14.9
Boarding[1]	14,752	15.1	5,191	24.3	2,902	15.4	4,504	12.8	2,151	9.6
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.									
Total	129,496	100.0	33,934	100.0	27,631	100.0	46,672	100.0	21,250	100.0
Living at home	105,623	81.6	24,608	72.5	23,336	84.5	39,376	84.4	18,295	86.1
In families having—										
No other breadwinners	43,825	33.8	10,578	31.2	8,782	31.8	17,001	36.4	7,461	35.1
One other	32,989	25.5	8,144	24.0	7,198	26.1	12,138	26.0	5,505	25.9
Two other	17,273	13.3	3,623	10.7	4,281	15.5	6,238	13.4	3,130	14.7
More than two other	11,536	8.9	2,263	6.7	3,075	11.1	3,999	8.6	2,199	10.3
Boarding[1]	23,873	18.4	9,326	27.5	4,295	15.5	7,296	15.6	2,955	13.9

[1] Includes those living with employer.

Of the 904,695 female breadwinners included in the above total, 632,804, or almost 70 per cent, were living at home in families in which there were other breadwinners, and 226,300, or 25 per cent, were living in families in which there were at least 3 other ("more than 2 other"), making a total of at least 4 breadwinners in the family. These represent the cases in which the earnings of the woman who was a breadwinner were presumably supplementary to those of other members of the family. In such cases her earnings might not be sufficient for her own support but would nevertheless contribute something to the total family income, either lessening the burden resting upon other breadwinners in the family or providing herself with personal comforts or luxuries which she might otherwise have to forego. The effect which the situation revealed by these statistics may have upon the wages which women receive is of course an interesting question, but is one which lies somewhat outside the scope and purpose of this report.

About one-tenth (10.9 per cent) of the total number of women included in this tabulation lived in families in which there were no other breadwinners. This fact would suggest that they were supporting themselves

and one or more other persons dependent upon them; and probably such an inference would be correct in the great majority of cases. Yet it should be remembered that it might not be true of all cases, since a woman keeping a boarding house and having no relative living with her would be included in this group; and so also would a woman keeping house by herself.

Of the single women included in this classification, 29.8 per cent, or almost three-tenths, lived in families in which there were at least 3 other breadwinners, the number living in this class of families being greater than the number in any other class. But among the single white women of native birth and parentage the number living in this class of families is not quite so large as the number living in families having only one other breadwinner. The contrast in this respect between the native white women of native parentage and the white women of foreign parentage or foreign birth probably indicates a difference in the average size of families. Large families would be apt to comprise more breadwinners than small families, and the families of immigrants are probably larger on the average than those of native white Americans. As regards negro women who are single, it may be noted that for some reason, the number returned as being the only breadwinners in the families in which they lived represents an exceptionally large percentage (14.7) of the total number.

Of the married women the largest proportion—44.7 per cent of the total number—were living in families in which there was only 1 other breadwinner, and it may be assumed that in the majority of cases this other breadwinner was the husband of the married woman, although, of course, there is the possibility that the wife might be living apart from the husband or that the latter might be an invalid or cripple returned as having no occupation, in which case the other breadwinner would necessarily be some other relative and probably in most instances a son or daughter. Where the married woman was the only breadwinner in the family it is probable that she was not living with her husband. More than one-tenth, or 11.3 per cent, of the total number of married women who were breadwinners were in this class. When there are 2 or more than 2 other breadwinners in the family, the number necessarily includes other relatives than the husband, and probably includes one or more children of the married woman.

A large proportion—33.8 per cent—of the widowed and divorced women included in this tabulation were the only breadwinners in the family. The proportion is much larger in this than in either of the other marital classes, while the proportion having 2 other or more than 2 other breadwinners in the family is considerably smaller.

OCCUPATIONS.

In the reports of the Twelfth Census (1900) the detailed classification of breadwinners with respect to the kind of work in which they were engaged distinguishes 303 occupations. The complete classification with the number of females 10 years of age and over employed in each occupation may be found in the Twelfth Census report on Occupations, Table 1, and has not been reproduced in this report. Women are represented in all but 9 of these occupations. Naturally no women were reported as United States soldiers, sailors, or marines; nor were any reported as firemen (in fire department), as street car drivers (though 2 were reported as motormen), as telegraph and telephone linemen, as apprentices or helpers to roofers and slaters, or as helpers to steam boiler makers or to brassworkers. But the reader may note with interest, and perhaps with some surprise, that 5 women were employed as pilots; that on steam railroads 10 were employed as baggagemen, 31 as brakemen, 7 as conductors, 45 as engineers and firemen, and 26 as switchmen, yardmen, and flagmen; that 6 women were reported as ship carpenters, and 2 as roofers and slaters; that as many as 185 were returned as blacksmiths and 508 as machinists; that 8 were boilermakers, 31 were charcoal, coke, and lime burners, and 11 were well borers. Such figures as these have little sociological significance beyond indicating that there are few kinds of work from which the female sex is absolutely debarred, either by nature or law or custom.

Of the 303 occupations distinguished in the Census classification there were 79 in which the number of females reported was less than 100, 59 in which it was between 100 and 500, and 31 in which it was between 500 and 1,000. This leaves 125 occupations in which over 1,000 females were employed, and of these occupations there are only 63 in which the number employed was over 5,000. In the analysis of the occupation returns by race, nativity, age, and marital condition it was deemed advisable to consolidate this detailed classification by using to a certain extent groups or combinations of occupations. This was done to avoid over-elaborate and voluminous detail and in the belief that many of the distinctions made in the more detailed classification were not sufficiently significant and precise to justify extended analysis. The consolidated or shorter classification included 140 occupations or occupation groups; and in this report the number has been further reduced to 47, by selecting only those in which more than 5,000 women, or females 16 years of age and over, were employed. These 47 occupations, or occupation groups, however, account for 95 per cent of the total number of women in continental United States reported as having a gainful occupation. Those employed in other occupations are included in the residuary, or "all other" groups under the several main classes of occupations.

This classification by occupation of female breadwinners 16 years of age and over is presented in Table XXII, which, for purposes of comparison, includes also the number of male breadwinners.

TABLE XXII.—*Male and female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by occupation, for continental United States: 1900.*

OCCUPATION.	BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Male.		Female.		Per cent.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Male.	Female.
All occupations	22,489,425	100.0	4,833,630	100.0	82.3	17.7
Agricultural pursuits	8,549,739	38.0	770,055	15.9	91.7	8.3
Agricultural laborers	2,900,026	12.9	456,405	9.4	86.4	13.6
Farmers, planters, and overseers	5,367,169	23.9	307,706	6.4	94.6	5.4
Other agricultural pursuits	282,544	1.3	5,944	0.1	97.9	2.1
Professional service	826,696	3.7	429,497	8.9	65.8	34.2
Actors, professional showmen, etc	27,483	0.1	6,661	0.1	80.5	19.5
Artists and teachers of art	13,741	0.1	10,907	0.2	55.7	44.3
Literary and scientific persons	12,860	0.1	5,984	0.1	68.2	31.8
Musicians and teachers of music	39,453	0.2	52,010	1.1	43.1	56.9
Officials (government)	78,488	0.3	8,119	0.2	90.6	9.4
Physicians and surgeons	124,615	0.6	7,387	0.2	94.4	5.6
Teachers and professors in colleges, etc	118,481	0.5	327,206	6.8	26.6	73.4
Other professional service	410,975	1.8	11,223	0.2	97.3	2.7
Domestic and personal service	3,348,159	14.9	1,953,467	40.4	63.2	36.8
Barbers and hairdressers	124,024	0.6	5,440	0.1	95.8	4.2
Boarding and lodging house keepers	11,826	0.1	59,455	1.2	16.6	83.4
Hotel keepers	46,264	0.2	8,533	0.2	84.4	15.6
Housekeepers and stewards	8,224	(1)	146,929	3.0	5.3	94.7
Janitors and sextons	48,350	0.2	8,010	0.2	85.8	14.2
Laborers (not specified)	2,393,729	10.6	106,916	2.2	95.7	4.3
Launderers and laundresses	50,019	0.2	328,935	6.8	13.2	86.8
Nurses and midwives	12,265	0.1	108,691	2.2	10.1	89.9
Servants and waiters	257,095	1.1	1,165,561	24.1	18.1	81.9
Other domestic and personal service	396,363	1.8	14,997	0.3	96.4	3.6
Trade and transportation	4,163,443	18.5	481,159	10.0	89.6	10.4
Agents	229,751	1.0	10,468	0.2	95.6	4.4
Bookkeepers and accountants	179,817	0.8	72,896	1.5	71.2	28.8
Clerks and copyists	527,122	2.3	81,000	1.7	86.7	13.3
Merchants and dealers (except wholesale)	754,502	3.4	33,825	0.7	95.7	4.3
Packers and shippers	37,882	0.2	17,052	0.4	69.0	31.0
Salesmen and saleswomen	448,552	2.0	142,265	2.9	75.9	24.1
Stenographers and typewriters	25,794	0.1	85,086	1.8	23.3	76.7
Telegraph and telephone operators	51,692	0.2	21,980	0.5	70.2	29.8
Other persons in trade and transportation	1,908,331	8.5	16,587	0.3	99.1	0.9
Manufacturing and mechanical pursuits	5,601,988	24.9	1,199,452	24.8	82.4	17.6
Bookbinders	14,010	0.1	14,303	0.3	49.5	50.5
Boot and shoe makers and repairers	164,181	0.7	36,490	0.8	81.8	18.2
Boxmakers (paper)	3,267	(1)	14,498	0.3	18.4	81.6
Confectioners	21,333	0.1	7,805	0.2	73.2	26.8
Glovemakers	4,275	(1)	7,170	0.1	37.4	62.6
Gold and silver workers	18,937	0.1	5,767	0.1	76.7	23.3
Paper and pulp mill operatives	26,062	0.1	8,709	0.2	75.0	25.0
Printers, lithographers, and pressmen	133,515	0.6	15,353	0.3	89.7	10.3
Rubber factory operatives	13,882	0.1	6,945	0.1	66.7	33.3
Textile mill operatives	231,696	1.0	231,458	4.8	50.0	50.0
Carpet factory operatives	9,721	(1)	8,332	0.2	53.8	46.2
Cotton mill operatives	104,783	0.5	97,181	2.0	51.9	48.1
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	10,560	(1)	28,293	0.6	27.2	72.8
Silk mill operatives	19,060	0.1	26,432	0.5	41.9	58.1
Woolen mill operatives	39,402	0.2	27,169	0.6	59.2	40.8
Other textile mill operatives	48,140	0.2	44,051	0.9	52.2	47.8
Textile workers	196,707	0.9	675,255	14.0	22.6	77.4
Dressmakers	2,042	(1)	338,144	7.0	0.6	99.4
Hat and cap makers	14,704	0.1	7,049	0.1	67.6	32.4
Milliners	1,696	(1)	82,936	1.7	2.0	98.0
Seamstresses	4,557	(1)	138,724	2.9	3.2	96.8
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	8,009	(1)	27,788	0.6	22.4	77.6
Tailors and tailoresses	157,165	0.7	61,571	1.3	71.9	29.1
Other textile workers	8,534	(1)	19,043	0.4	30.9	69.1
Tobacco and cigar factory operatives	82,865	0.4	37,125	0.8	69.1	30.9
Other manufacturing and mechanical pursuits	4,691,258	20.9	138,574	2.9	97.1	2.9

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Leading occupations.—In point of numbers by far the most important occupation for women is that of servant or waitress, the 1,165,561 women reported for this occupation constituting nearly one-fourth (24.1 per cent) of the total number in all occupations. The number of women in this occupation group returned as waitresses was 41,178.

If the breadwinners grouped as textile workers are regarded as constituting a single occupation group, that group would rank next to servants and waitresses in numerical importance; but in view of the fact that it comprises a number of rather diversified occupations, it seems more appropriate to give the second rank to the group of agricultural or farm laborers. To one unacquainted with occupation statistics it may seem surprising that almost half a million (456,405) women in continental United States were reported for this occupation. The significance of the figures will be better understood if it is pointed out that 442,006, or 96.8 per cent, of these farm laborers were reported from the Southern states, or the South Atlantic and South Central divisions, and that 361,804, or 79.3 per cent, of the total number were of the negro race. Moreover, it appears that 277,727, or 60.9 per cent, of the total number were members of the farmer's family, representing the wives and grown-up daughters assisting in the work on the home farm.

Next to these two leading occupations come 4 occupations not far apart in numerical importance, though widely different in character. They are the occupations of dressmaker, laundress, teacher, and farmer. The largest of these occupations—that of dressmaker—employs 338,144 women, and the smallest—that of farmer—employs 307,706. It may be stated in this connection that the farmers are not concentrated in the South to the same degree as farm laborers and that 233,086, or 75.7 per cent, of the number are white women.

Three-fifths of the total number of women reported as breadwinners are found in these 6 leading occupations employing more than 300,000 women each, the aggregate number in the 6 occupations being 2,923,957.

For the purpose of ranking it seems proper to treat the textile mill operatives as constituting a single occupation group, the different occupations included in this total being very similar in their main characteristics. They all represent factory industries, and there is a general similarity also in the kind of work done and in the other conditions of employment. The total number of women reported as textile mill operatives—231,458—makes this the seventh occupation group in numerical importance.

The occupation next in rank is that of housekeepers and stewardesses. This comprised 146,929 women. The housekeepers here referred to are those working for wages, the housekeeping and housework done by women in their own homes not being included in the list of gainful occupations.

If there are added to the occupation groups already mentioned the group of saleswomen, comprising 142,265 women, and that of seamstresses, comprising 138,724, the list includes the 10 leading occupations for women and accounts for 3,583,333, or 74.1 per cent, of the total number of women who are breadwinners. Six of these are occupation groups in which women predominate, greatly outnumbering the men. In the group of textile mill operatives the two sexes are represented in almost equal numbers. In the other three groups—comprising farmers, farm laborers, and salesmen or saleswomen—men are in the majority.

The occupation group of "nurses and midwives" includes 108,691 women. It is probable that in the enumerator's schedule the term "nurse" was in many instances applied to women who were employed to take care of young children and would more properly have been returned as servants. In classifying the returns the attempt was made to distinguish trained nurses. The number of women actually classified as trained nurses was a little over 11,000, the remainder being classified as "nurses (not specified)." It is not improbable that many of the latter were likewise trained nurses, but the returns were too indefinite for positive conclusions. The number of midwives included in this group was 5,629.

A large number of women—106,916—were included in the group designated as "laborers (not specified)." This group consists principally of women living in cities or town districts who were returned on the enumerator's schedule either as laborers without further specication, or as common, general, or day laborers, or under some other designation which was either similarly indefinite or indicated employment as unskilled laborers in work not directly connected with any of the occupations classified under agriculture, trade and transportation, or manufacturing and mechanical pursuits. If the schedule related to an agricultural district, the Bureau of the Census classified such returns as "agricultural laborers." Therefore it is probable the numbers remaining in this group include few farm laborers; but in territorial distribution and race composition the group resembles the farm laborer group, 79,997, or about 75 per cent, of the total number of women classified as laborers (not specified) being reported from the Southern states (South Atlantic and South Central divisions) and 70,112, or 65.6 per cent, of the total number being negroes.

The 12 occupation groups thus far mentioned comprise all those for which more than 100,000 women were reported. There are 7 other occupation groups in which the number of women was between 50,000 and 100,000. Mentioned in order of size, they are as follows: Stenographers and typewriters (85,086), milliners (82,936), clerks and copyists (81,000), bookkeepers and accountants (72,896), tailoresses (61,571), boarding and lodging house keepers (59,455), and musicians and teachers of music (52,010). The 19 occupations employing more than 50,000 women each, account for 4,293,894, or 88.8 per cent, of the total number of female breadwinners 16 years of age and over.

Race and nativity.—In Table XXIII the per cent distribution by race and nativity is shown for the total number of female breadwinners 16 years of age and over in each of the principal occupations for women, the occupations being given in the order of the rank in percentage of native white women of native parentage.

The occupations in which the native white women of native parentage attain their greatest prominence are for the most part those requiring special courses of preparatory study, or at any rate, a good general education. At the head of the list is the group of officials in government service, an occupation in which 75.5 per cent of the women employed are of this nativity. Over three-fourths of the women in this occupation are officials of the National Government. They are widely distributed throughout the country, and probably most of them are postmistresses. The "literary and scientific persons," who compose the occupation group having the next largest percentage of native white women of native parentage, include 3,122 librarians and assistants and 2,614 women returned as "authors and scientists," the remaining number—248—being chemists, assayists, and metallurgists.

There are in all 18 occupations in which more than one-half of the total number of women are native white of native parentage; of these the two most important as regards the number of women employed are teaching and farming. The educational requirements explain the high percentage of native white women of native parentage in the occupation of teaching; while farming is an occupation which has never appealed very strongly to the immigrant, and accordingly is largely in the hands of the native white or negro population, as is indicated by the race and nativity of the women who were reported in this occupation.

TABLE XXIII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION,[1] BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, EMPLOYED IN EACH OF THE PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS FOR WOMEN, AND RANK OF EACH OCCUPATION WITH RESPECT TO THE PER CENT COMPRISED IN SPECIFIED RACE AND NATIVITY CLASS, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

OCCUPATION.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Number.	Per cent in the specified race and nativity class, and rank of occupation with respect to this per cent.							
		Native white—both parents native.		Native white—one or both parents foreign born.		Foreign born white.		Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.	
		Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.
All occupations	4,833,630	36.7	.....	22.6	.....	17.4	.....	23.4	.....
Officials (government)	8,119	75.5	1	18.7	39	5.1	46	0.7	24
Literary and scientific persons	5,984	74.1	2	19.4	37	6.0	44	0.4	29
Artists and teachers of art	10,907	69.5	3	21.6	33	8.0	38	0.8	23
Physicians and surgeons	7,387	66.1	4	17.2	42	14.4	25	2.3	18
Musicians and teachers of music	52,010	65.6	5	25.7	30	6.4	42	2.3	18
Teachers and professors in colleges, etc	327,206	63.5	6	27.0	28	5.3	45	4.2	13
Agents	10,468	63.4	7	21.5	34	12.5	31	2.6	16
Hotel keepers	8,533	59.1	8	17.8	41	21.2	16	2.0	20
Farmers, planters, and overseers	307,706	58.3	9	6.1	46	11.4	33	24.3	5
Glovemakers	7,170	55.4	10	29.8	26	14.1	28	0.7	24
Actresses, professional show-women, etc	6,661	55.1	11	29.8	26	15.3	24	3.8	14
Printers, lithographers, and presswomen	15,353	55.1	11	37.1	21	7.2	40	0.6	28
Telegraph and telephone operators	21,980	54.6	13	39.1	18	6.2	43	0.1	42
Milliners	82,936	54.5	14	34.7	22	10.6	35	0.2	37
Boarding and lodging house keepers	59,455	53.4	15	16.5	43	24.1	14	6.1	12
Stenographers and typewriters	85,086	53.3	16	39.6	16	6.9	41	0.2	37
Housekeepers and stewardesses	146,929	53.0	17	19.9	36	20.6	17	6.5	11
Clerks and copyists	81,000	50.6	18	39.6	16	9.1	36	0.7	24
Bookkeepers and accountants	72,896	49.2	19	42.0	13	8.5	37	0.3	31
Dressmakers	338,144	45.2	20	34.7	22	16.4	23	3.7	15
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	28,293	43.6	21	37.5	20	18.9	19	0.1	42
Seamstresses	138,724	43.4	22	30.2	25	18.1	21	8.3	10
Saleswomen	142,265	42.3	23	45.6	6	11.9	32	0.3	31
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	27,788	41.1	24	42.0	13	16.5	22	0.4	29
Boot and shoe makers and repairers	36,490	40.3	25	45.2	7	14.3	26	0.2	37
Nurses and midwives	108,691	40.3	25	17.9	40	24.6	11	17.2	7
Cotton mill operatives	97,181	36.1	27	20.9	35	42.7	2	0.3	31
Packers and shippers	17,052	35.7	28	48.7	5	14.2	27	1.3	21
Hat and cap makers	7,049	35.3	29	42.4	12	22.3	15	(2)	45
Tobacco and cigar factory operatives	37,125	34.3	30	27.0	28	26.1	9	12.5	8
Silk mill operatives	26,432	32.4	31	42.8	11	24.6	11	0.2	37
Boxmakers (paper)	14,498	31.9	32	53.8	2	14.1	28	0.3	31
Bookbinders	14,303	31.4	33	57.4	1	11.0	34	0.2	37
Merchants and dealers (except wholesale)	33,825	30.9	34	24.3	31	42.1	3	2.6	16
Barbers and hairdressers	5,440	30.7	35	32.6	24	18.4	20	18.3	6
Confectioners	7,805	29.7	36	45.2	7	24.3	13	0.9	22
Paper and pulp mill operatives	8,709	29.4	37	44.8	9	25.6	10	0.3	31
Gold and silver workers	5,767	27.9	38	52.5	3	19.6	18	(2)	45
Servants and waitresses	1,165,561	26.2	39	19.2	38	27.6	8	27.0	4
Carpet factory operatives	8,332	26.0	40	43.8	10	30.2	7	0.1	42
Woolen mill operatives	27,169	25.0	41	41.9	15	32.8	5	0.3	31
Tailoresses	61,571	22.9	42	38.4	19	38.1	4	0.7	24
Laborers (not specified)	106,916	20.2	43	6.3	45	7.4	39	66.0	2
Agricultural laborers	456,405	18.1	44	1.4	47	1.0	47	79.5	1
Rubber factory operatives	6,945	18.1	44	50.5	4	31.4	6	(2)	45
Janitors and sextons	8,010	16.8	46	23.9	32	48.6	1	10.7	9
Laundresses	328,935	12.7	47	8.7	44	13.0	30	65.6	3
All other occupations	250,419	34.1	.....	38.7	.....	23.1	.....	4.1	.....

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 13, page 158.

[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Of the occupations classified under manufacturing and mechanical pursuits, the one having the highest percentage of native white women of native parentage is that of glovemakers. This is explained by the localization of the glove industry. A large part—more than one-half in 1900—of the glove product of the United States was manufactured in Fulton county, New York. Of the 7,170 women returned in the census of 1900 as glovemakers, almost 5,000 (see Table 24, page 190) were reported from the state of New York, and doubtless most of these were residents of that county. Probably, therefore, the composition of this occupation group is determined largely by that of the population of Fulton county, which is mostly a population of native stock. Another manufacturing pursuit in which the native white women of native parentage attain great prominence is the printing trade. The 15,353 women reported as printers, lithographers, and presswomen comprise over 9,000 compositors (including proof readers) and over 5,000 printers and presswomen; and of the total number of women in this occupation group, 55.1 per cent are daughters of native American parents. The occupation is one that requires at least a good public school education as well as some technical training.

The native white of foreign parentage, or the

daughters of white immigrants, attain their greatest prominence in trades requiring some degree of technical skill but not much general education. They are also trades which are mostly confined to large cities or to sections of the country in which a large percentage of the population is of foreign birth. Bookbinding, an occupation in which 57.4 per cent of the women employed are the daughters of immigrants, is centered in the large cities of the country. This is also true of the paper box industry, which ranks next in the percentage of female employees who are of this nativity. Most of the women reported as gold and silver workers are employees in jewelry manufactories, representing an industry which is largely centered in New England. The rubber factory industry is not concentrated in the large cities to the same extent as these other industries, but like the manufacture of jewelry is mostly restricted to the three southern New England states—Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island—where the foreign born population attains exceptional prominence. These 4 occupation groups are the only ones in which a majority of the total number of women employed are native white of foreign parentage. Next in rank as regards the importance of the percentage of native white of foreign parentage comes the occupation of packers and shippers, in which 48.7 per cent of the women employed are of this race and nativity. More important in point of numbers of women employed than any of the occupations previously mentioned in this paragraph is the occupation of saleswomen. Of the 142,265 women reported in this occupation, 45.6 per cent were native white of foreign parentage, which gives this occupation the sixth rank in the percentage here considered. A large proportion of these saleswomen are doubtless employed in the department stores of large cities. Of the women reported as confectioners—another occupation in which the native daughters of foreign born parents attain exceptional prominence—75.3 per cent were employed in cities of over 50,000 inhabitants, this being the largest percentage in cities of this size for any occupation with three exceptions (see Table 23, page 178).

It may seem somewhat surprising to find that the occupation in which the foreign born white women are most prominent is that of janitors and sextons. As would be expected, very few of the women in this occupation group were returned as sextons—only 91 out of a total of 8,010. Most of the others were returned as janitors or janitresses and probably in many cases the designation was applied to women who were regularly employed in sweeping and cleaning office buildings without having any administrative responsibilities. The occupation which ranks next in the percentage of foreign born white women is that of cotton mill operatives. It may seem rather remarkable that an occupation having such a high rank in this percentage should rank comparatively low in the percentage of native white whose parents were foreign born. This contrast is mainly the result of conditions in the New England states, where, according to the Twelfth Census returns, the immigrant women in the cotton mills outnumber the women who were born in this country but whose parents were immigrants by very nearly 5 to 2. To a certain extent this reflects a difference in the relative importance of the two classes in the total population of that section of the country. While in the country as a whole there were about as many native white women of foreign parentage in 1900 as there were foreign born white women, in New England the former were less than two-thirds as numerous as the latter. This fact, however, would not fully account for differences noted in the extent to which the two classes are employed in the cotton mills; and probably therefore the contrast indicates a disposition on the part of the daughters of immigrants to take up other kinds of employment. The occupation which ranks third in the percentage of foreign born white women is that of retail merchants and dealers. Of the 33,825 women reported in this occupation, 14,254, or 42.1 per cent, were of this nativity. Next in rank in this respect comes the group of tailoresses, of whom 38.1 per cent were foreigners by birth. This is an occupation concentrated mostly in large cities—New York and Chicago alone reporting more than one-third of the total number of women reported as tailoresses. In the Census classification probably most of the women employed in what are termed "sweat shop" industries appear either as tailoresses or as seamstresses. But the latter occupation is more widely distributed throughout the country and is one in which the percentage of women of foreign birth is not exceptionally high.

The occupation in which negro, Indian, and Mongolian women are represented by the largest percentage of the total is that of agricultural laborer. Nearly four-fifths (79.5 per cent) of the total number of women in that occupation belong to these races. Next in rank as regards the percentage for these classes is the group of general laborers or "laborers (not specified);" then comes the occupation of laundress, and fourth that of servant or waitress. The negro (including Indian and Mongolian) women are also represented by high percentages in the occupation of farmer and in that of nurse or midwife; but the only manufacturing or mechanical occupation in which they attain any prominence is that of cigar and tobacco factory operative. While the breadwinners of this race constitute 23.4 per cent of the total number of women reported as breadwinners, there are only 5 occupations in which their percentage is greater than that and only 9 in which it exceeds 10 per cent. This of course indicates their restriction to a comparatively small number of pursuits.

Age.—In Table XXIV the 47 principal occupations for women have been arranged in the order of rank as determined by the percentage which women 16 to 24 years of age form of the total number of women in the occupation, the percentages in the older age periods and the rank of the occupation as determined by these percentages being likewise indicated.

The figures here presented are those for the area of enumeration, which includes the territories of Alaska and Hawaii and the military and naval stations of the United States. Therefore the numbers on which the percentages are based differ to some extent from those given in the preceding tables, which are confined to continental United States; but the difference is not great enough to appreciably affect the percentage.

TABLE XXIV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION,[1] BY AGE, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED IN EACH OF THE PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS FOR WOMEN, AND RANK OF EACH OCCUPATION WITH RESPECT TO PER CENT COMPRISED IN EACH AGE PERIOD, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

OCCUPATION.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.												
	Number.	Per cent in the specified age period, and rank of occupation with respect to this per cent.											
		16 to 24 years of age.		25 to 34 years of age.		35 to 44 years of age.		45 to 54 years of age.		55 to 64 years of age.		65 years of age and over.	
		Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.
All occupations	4,843,155	44.2	.....	24.2	.....	14.0	.....	9.1	.....	5.3	.....	2.9	.....
Packers and shippers	17,052	75.0	1	17.4	43	4.9	46	1.8	42	0.6	40	0.2	35
Silk mill operatives	26,432	72.3	2	19.2	42	5.7	43	1.7	44	0.5	42	0.2	35
Boxmakers (paper)	14,498	71.2	3	20.8	37	5.7	44	1.7	44	0.4	45	0.1	44
Telegraph and telephone operators	21,999	71.1	4	22.6	30	4.4	47	1.3	46	0.3	46	0.1	44
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	28,293	70.0	5	19.6	41	6.7	42	2.6	37	0.9	36	0.2	35
Gold and silver workers	5,767	67.5	6	22.0	34	7.5	40	2.3	39	0.5	42	0.2	35
Bookbinders	14,306	64.9	7	24.3	25	6.9	41	2.5	38	1.2	31	0.2	35
Tobacco and cigar factory operatives	37,126	63.8	8	20.6	38	9.8	34	4.0	30	1.3	30	0.4	30
Stenographers and typewriters	85,126	63.2	9	30.5	9	5.1	45	0.8	47	0.2	47	(2)	47
Saleswomen	142,290	62.3	10	26.6	17	7.7	38	2.3	39	0.7	37	0.2	35
Confectioners	7,810	61.7	11	16.6	45	10.6	29	5.0	25	3.4	20	1.7	17
Cotton mill operatives	97,181	61.7	11	22.4	31	10.3	31	4.0	30	1.2	31	0.2	35
Printers, lithographers, and presswomen	15,361	60.3	13	28.3	12	7.6	39	2.8	36	0.7	37	0.2	35
Paper and pulp mill operatives	8,709	60.0	14	22.4	31	9.8	33	5.4	26	1.8	26	0.6	25
Clerks and copyists	81,023	59.3	15	26.8	16	8.7	36	3.4	34	1.2	31	0.3	32
Woolen mill operatives	27,109	59.0	16	25.0	21	10.4	30	4.0	30	1.1	35	0.3	32
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	27,788	58.7	17	24.2	26	10.8	28	4.0	30	1.5	29	0.6	25
Rubber factory operatives	6,945	57.5	18	30.2	10	9.1	35	2.3	39	0.6	40	0.2	35
Bookkeepers and accountants	72,928	57.4	19	32.4	5	7.8	37	1.8	42	0.5	42	0.1	44
Hat and cap makers	7,049	55.6	20	26.0	18	11.3	26	4.6	27	1.8	26	0.6	25
Agricultural laborers	458,975	54.5	21	20.6	38	11.4	25	7.5	19	3.7	18	1.9	16
Boot and shoe makers and repairers	36,490	54.3	22	27.1	15	12.5	22	4.5	28	1.2	31	0.3	32
Servants and waitresses	1,166,708	53.4	23	24.0	28	11.0	27	6.3	22	3.2	22	1.7	17
Tailoresses	61,612	52.6	24	23.0	29	13.2	20	6.4	21	3.1	23	1.5	19
Glovemakers	7,175	49.5	25	24.1	27	13.8	19	7.9	18	3.4	20	1.1	23
Milliners	82,958	49.4	26	27.8	14	13.0	21	6.0	23	2.7	24	0.9	24
Actresses, professional show-women, etc.	6,713	48.8	27	36.7	1	10.1	32	2.9	35	0.7	37	0.4	30
Carpet factory operatives	8,332	48.4	28	24.9	22	12.4	23	6.5	20	4.6	15	3.2	12
Teachers and professors in colleges, etc.	327,635	46.4	29	34.8	3	11.7	24	4.5	28	1.7	28	0.5	28
Musicians and teachers of music	52,028	43.3	30	33.3	4	14.4	18	6.0	23	2.2	25	0.5	28
Seamstresses	139,149	42.7	31	25.4	20	15.6	17	8.8	17	4.9	14	2.3	15
Laborers (not specified)	107,081	39.2	32	22.2	33	15.7	16	11.4	13	6.8	13	4.0	9
Barbers and hairdressers	5,448	38.0	33	30.7	7	17.3	14	8.9	16	3.5	19	1.3	22
Dressmakers	338,290	32.6	34	30.6	8	20.9	8	10.2	14	4.2	17	1.4	20
Housekeepers and stewardesses	147,103	28.2	35	21.5	35	18.3	13	15.3	9	10.6	9	5.8	6
Artists and teachers of art	10,913	27.8	36	35.9	2	20.8	9	9.6	15	4.3	16	1.4	20
Officials (government)	8,126	27.3	37	29.0	11	19.8	11	13.0	11	7.8	11	2.9	13
Nurses and midwives	108,978	25.7	38	25.8	19	16.1	15	14.1	10	11.2	5	6.6	5
Literary and scientific persons	5,989	25.5	39	31.3	6	20.0	10	12.4	12	7.7	12	2.8	14
Laundresses	329,359	23.3	40	24.7	23	23.4	7	16.4	8	8.0	10	3.4	11
Agents	10,472	17.7	41	24.5	24	24.0	6	18.1	7	10.8	7	4.5	8
Merchants and dealers (except wholesale)	33,872	8.6	42	20.2	40	27.8	5	21.8	5	14.4	4	7.0	4
Physicians and surgeons	7,399	6.8	43	27.9	13	29.8	2	19.1	6	10.7	8	5.2	7
Janitors and sextons	8,012	6.0	44	21.4	36	33.6	1	23.9	4	11.2	5	3.6	10
Farmers, planters, and overseers	307,788	3.8	45	9.7	47	19.8	11	26.3	3	23.2	1	16.8	1
Boarding and lodging house keepers	59,511	3.1	46	16.9	44	29.1	3	27.0	2	16.6	3	7.1	3
Hotel keepers	8,545	2.6	47	13.9	46	28.8	4	28.8	1	18.5	2	7.3	2
All other occupations	253,642	53.4	.....	21.6	.....	12.0	.....	6.9	.....	3.8	.....	2.0	.....

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 17, page 162.

[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The age composition of any occupation group is affected by a number of more or less independent influences. Other things being equal, an occupation of recent origin or of recent exceptional growth will comprise a larger percentage of young persons than one which has been longer established and is growing at a slower rate. The high rank of the packers and shippers in the percentage of young women is doubtless attributable in part to the fact that this is an occupation which has only recently begun to report large

numbers of women. Few occupations have shown a more rapid increase in this respect, the number of women 15 years of age and over reported as packers and shippers being three times as great in 1900 as it was in 1890. Recent growth is an important factor also in explaining the large percentage of young women among telegraph and telephone operators and among stenographers and typewriters, the former occupation ranking fourth in the percentage 16 to 24 years of age and the latter ninth. The latter occupation ranks ninth also in the percentage 25 to 34 years of age, but has a very low rank in the percentage for older age periods. As time goes by, the numerical preponderance of young women in these occupations will probably become less marked.

Most of the occupations carried on in factories comprise a large percentage of young women, especially if the industry represented is one in which child labor is extensively employed. This is illustrated by the high percentage of women 16 to 24 years of age in the various classes of textile mill operatives and among boxmakers (paper), gold and silver workers, bookbinders, and tobacco and cigar factory operatives. Glovemaking, on the other hand, is an industry which is to a considerable extent carried on in the homes of the workers, and this explains the fact that, as compared with most other manufacturing pursuits, it has a rather small percentage of young women and a large percentage of women over 35.

Another factor of importance is the age at which women usually enter the occupation, which in turn depends to a considerable extent upon the preparatory training or study required for it. Of the women reported as physicians and surgeons, only a very small percentage are under 25 years of age, while the percentage 35 to 44 years is larger than it is in any other occupation employing more than 5,000 women except one. For similar reasons the percentage of women 25 to 34 years of age is exceptionally high among actresses, artists and teachers of art, teachers in schools and colleges, musicians and teachers of music, bookkeepers and accountants, and literary and scientific persons, these 6 occupations having the highest rank in this percentage, while their rank in the percentage of women under 25 is comparatively low.

There are other occupations which require no special preparatory training and are adopted principally by women who are thrown upon their own resources in middle life. Such is the occupation of boarding house keeper, the allied occupation of hotel keeper, and the occupation of retail merchant. Each of these occupations comprises a comparatively small percentage of women under 35 years of age, but ranks high in the percentages in each older age group. Farming—an occupation which is likewise resorted to principally by women in middle life or advanced age—has the highest rank in the percentage of women 55 years of age and over of any occupation shown in Table XXIV.

Those breadwinning pursuits which may be readily carried on at home are naturally preferred by married women and widows with families and accordingly comprise a rather large percentage of middle-aged or elderly women. The occupation of laundress comes into this class and so perhaps does that of dressmaker. At the same time the age distribution of the laundress group is doubtless affected to a considerable extent by the fact that it is one of the principal occupations for negro women.

Marital condition.—Table XXV shows the per cent distribution by marital condition of the total number of women employed in each specified occupation, and the rank of such occupation as regards the percentage in each marital class, the occupations being arranged in the order of rank as determined by the percentage of single women.

The marital condition of any group is to a large extent determined by the age composition of that group. An occupation in which a large percentage of the women are under 25 years of age will normally comprise a large percentage of single women; and in the majority of cases it will be found that the rank of any occupation in the percentage of single women, as shown in the above table, does not differ widely from its rank in the percentage of women 16 to 24 years of age, as shown in Table XXIV. For two occupations only are both rankings identical; but there are 7 occupations for which the difference is only 1, 12 for which it is only 2, 5 for which it is only 3, and 3 for which it is only 4. This leaves only 18 occupations out of 47 in which the difference between the two rankings is 5 or more.

If the rank of an occupation in the percentage of single women is high as compared with its rank in the percentage of women 16 to 24 years of age, this fact indicates that the occupation comprises a relatively large number of single women above 25 years of age and few, if any, married women below that age. This is a condition which appears to obtain to a marked degree among teachers—an occupation group which ranks sixth in the percentage of single women, but only twenty-ninth in the percentage of women under 25. A similar though less marked contrast between the two rankings appears in the occupations of stenographers and typewriters, bookkeepers and accountants, literary and scientific persons, musicians and teachers of music, and artists and teachers of art.

On the other hand the fact that the rank of an occupation in the percentage of young women is much higher than its rank in the percentage of single implies that there are relatively few single women over 25 in that occupation and perhaps a good many married women under that age. Occupations which come into

this class are packers and shippers, silk mill operatives, hosiery and knitting mill operatives, confectioners, cotton mill operatives, tobacco and cigar factory operatives, glovemakers, actresses and professional show-women, agricultural laborers, and laborers (not specified).

TABLE XXV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION,[1] BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED IN EACH OF THE PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS FOR WOMEN, AND RANK OF EACH OCCUPATION WITH RESPECT TO PER CENT COMPRISED IN SPECIFIC MARITAL CLASS, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

OCCUPATION.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Number.	Per cent in the specified marital class, and rank of occupation with respect to this per cent.							
		Single (including unknown).		Married.		Widowed.		Divorced.	
		Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.	Per cent.	Rank.
All occupations	4,843,155	65.0	.....	16.0	.....	17.7	.....	1.3	.....
Stenographers and typewriters	85,126	94.9	1	2.5	47	2.0	47	0.6	32
Bookkeepers and accountants	72,928	92.9	2	4.0	45	2.5	46	0.6	32
Bookbinders	14,306	92.8	3	2.8	46	4.0	36	0.4	43
Telegraph and telephone operators	21,999	92.7	4	4.1	44	2.7	45	0.5	40
Boxmakers (paper)	14,498	92.5	5	4.3	43	2.8	44	0.4	43
Teachers and professors in colleges, etc	327,635	92.2	6	4.5	42	2.9	43	0.4	43
Packers and shippers	17,052	91.0	7	5.0	41	3.4	39	0.6	32
Gold and silver workers	5,767	90.3	8	5.4	38	3.4	39	0.9	24
Silk mill operatives	26,432	90.2	9	6.3	36	3.1	42	0.4	43
Saleswomen	142,290	90.2	9	5.4	38	3.8	38	0.6	32
Printers, lithographers, and presswomen	15,361	89.8	11	6.2	37	3.2	41	0.8	27
Clerks and copyists	81,023	89.7	12	5.2	40	4.5	35	0.6	32
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	28,293	87.4	13	8.1	34	4.0	36	0.5	40
Rubber factory operatives	6,945	86.4	14	8.3	33	4.9	34	0.4	43
Hat and cap makers	7,049	84.2	15	9.1	32	6.1	30	0.6	32
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	27,788	84.2	15	8.6	35	6.6	28	0.6	32
Paper and pulp mill operatives	8,709	82.8	17	9.7	31	6.8	26	0.7	30
Boot and shoe makers and repairers	36,490	81.3	18	12.5	23	5.1	32	1.1	21
Woolen mill operatives	27,169	80.7	19	13.7	19	5.0	33	0.6	32
Musicians and teachers of music	52,028	79.6	20	12.4	24	6.7	27	1.3	18
Milliners	82,958	78.5	21	12.6	22	7.6	24	1.3	18
Tailoresses	61,612	77.8	22	11.1	27	10.2	21	0.9	24
Literary and scientific persons	5,989	77.7	23	10.0	30	11.3	20	1.0	22
Servants and waitresses	1,166,708	76.7	24	10.4	28	11.7	18	1.2	20
Artists and teachers of art	10,913	75.8	25	13.9	18	8.9	22	1.4	16
Carpet factory operatives	8,332	74.6	26	13.1	20	11.6	19	0.7	30
Confectioners	7,810	74.6	26	10.4	28	14.2	16	0.8	27
Cotton mill operatives	97,181	73.7	28	20.3	14	5.5	31	0.5	40
Tobacco and cigar factory operatives	37,126	71.9	29	19.2	15	8.0	23	0.9	24
Seamstresses	139,149	69.6	30	11.5	26	17.3	13	1.6	14
Dressmakers	338,290	68.5	31	14.6	17	15.1	15	1.8	11
Glovemakers	7,175	61.4	32	30.3	7	7.3	25	1.0	22
Barbers and hairdressers	5,448	60.2	33	22.0	11	15.3	14	2.5	6
Housekeepers and stewardesses	147,103	59.4	34	12.3	25	25.8	10	2.5	6
Officials (government)	8,126	59.1	35	21.2	12	18.3	12	1.4	16
Nurses and midwives	108,978	58.7	36	12.7	21	27.0	9	1.6	14
Actresses, professional show-women, etc	6,713	52.4	37	38.4	3	6.4	29	2.8	4
Agricultural laborers	458,975	48.0	38	39.2	2	12.0	17	0.8	27
Agents	10,472	47.1	39	20.9	13	28.6	7	3.4	3
Physicians and surgeons	7,399	45.3	40	31.9	5	20.2	11	2.6	5
Laborers (not specified)	107,081	41.7	41	29.3	8	27.1	8	1.9	9
Laundresses	329,359	28.8	42	34.0	4	34.8	6	2.4	8
Merchants and dealers (except wholesale)	33,872	24.6	43	28.6	9	45.0	4	1.8	11
Boarding and lodging house keepers	59,511	14.1	44	26.3	10	55.6	2	4.0	1
Janitors and sextons	8,012	12.3	45	42.5	1	43.5	5	1.7	13
Hotel keepers	8,545	11.2	46	30.8	6	54.2	3	3.8	2
Farmers, planters, and overseers	307,788	9.1	47	15.6	16	73.4	1	1.9	9
All other occupations	253,642	73.3	.....	14.3	.....	11.4	.....	1.0	.....

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 21, page 170.

The difference between the two classes of occupations here compared may not indicate that marriages are less usual in one class than in the other, but more probably results from the fact that in the one class women are more apt to give up their occupation when they marry than in the other.

Increase, 1890 to 1900.—The increase between 1890 and 1900 in the number of women 15 years of age and over employed in each of the principal occupations for this sex is shown in Table XXVI. As previously explained, it is necessary in making comparisons with the census of 1890 to extend the age limits so as to include all female breadwinners 15 years of age and over.

TABLE XXVI.—*Increase in the number of female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by occupation, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900 and 1890.*

OCCUPATION.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
All occupations	5,007,069	3,712,144	1,294,925	34.9
Agricultural pursuits	811,744	595,134	216,610	36.4
Agricultural laborers	497,886	363,554	134,332	36.9
Farmers, planters, and overseers	307,788	226,427	81,361	35.9
Other agricultural pursuits	6,070	5,153	917	17.8
Professional service	430,766	311,241	119,525	38.4
Actresses, professional show-women, etc	6,819	4,491	2,328	51.8
Artists and teachers of art	10,989	10,775	214	2.0
Literary and scientific persons	5,989	2,764	3,225	116.7
Musicians and teachers of music	52,257	34,435	17,822	51.8
Officials (government)	8,126	4,875	3,251	66.7
Physicians and surgeons	7,399	4,557	2,842	62.4
Teachers and professors in colleges, etc	327,905	245,839	82,066	33.4
Other professional service	11,282	3,505	7,777	221.9
Domestic and personal service	2,012,040	1,590,187	421,853	26.5
Barbers and hairdressers	5,533	2,779	2,754	99.1
Boarding and lodging house keepers	59,511	32,593	26,918	82.6
Hotel keepers	8,545	5,276	3,269	62.0
Housekeepers and stewardesses	147,103	86,089	61,014	70.9
Janitors and sextons	8,028	2,803	5,225	186.4
Laborers (not specified)	111,503	50,321	61,182	121.6
Laundresses	332,665	215,121	117,544	54.6
Nurses and midwives	108,978	41,396	67,582	163.3
Servants and waitresses	1,213,828	1,145,255	68,573	6.0
Other domestic and personal service	16,346	8,554	7,792	91.1
Trade and transportation	494,126	222,553	271,573	122.0
Agents	10,538	4,853	5,685	117.1
Bookkeepers and accountants	73,820	27,606	46,214	167.4
Clerks and copyists	83,726	62,817	20,909	33.3
Merchants and dealers (except wholesale)	34,008	25,284	8,724	34.5
Packers and shippers	18,673	6,147	12,526	203.8
Saleswomen	146,577	57,171	89,406	156.4
Stenographers and typewriters	85,912	21,214	64,698	305.0
Telegraph and telephone operators	22,454	8,403	14,051	167.2
Other persons in trade and transportation	18,418	9,058	9,360	103.3
Manufacturing and mechanical pursuits	1,258,393	993,029	265,364	26.7
Bookbinders	15,171	11,271	3,900	34.6
Boot and shoe makers and repairers	38,285	32,948	5,337	16.2
Boxmakers (paper)	15,992	12,325	3,667	29.8
Confectioners	8,586	5,328	3,258	61.1
Glovemakers	7,543	3,608	3,935	109.1
Gold and silver workers	6,158	3,253	2,905	89.3
Paper and pulp mill operatives	9,164	8,719	445	5.1
Printers, lithographers, and pressmen	15,770	12,026	3,744	31.1
Rubber factory operatives	7,238	6,331	907	14.3
Textile mill operatives	250,376	211,112	39,264	18.6
Carpet factory operatives	8,679	10,452	[1]1,773	[1]17.0
Cotton mill operatives	104,944	84,220	20,724	24.6
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	31,108	19,321	11,787	61.0
Silk mill operatives	29,200	19,108	10,092	52.8
Woolen mill operatives	28,961	34,428	[1]5,467	[1]15.9
Other textile mill operatives	47,484	43,583	3,901	9.0
Textile workers	693,158	588,277	104,881	17.8
Dressmakers	342,579	290,308	52,271	18.0
Hat and cap makers	7,398	6,552	846	12.9
Milliners	85,025	60,653	24,372	40.2
Seamstresses	143,270	143,339	[1]69	(2)
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	29,509	15,534	13,975	90.0
Tailoresses	65,353	61,488	3,865	6.3
Other textile workers	20,024	10,403	9,621	92.5
Tobacco and cigar factory operatives	40,325	25,853	14,472	56.0
Other manufacturing and mechanical pursuits	150,627	71,978	78,649	109.3

[1] Decrease. [2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The percentages of increase vary widely in the different occupation groups. The largest percentage is that for stenographers and typewriters—an occupation in which there were more than four times as many women in 1900 as in 1890, representing an increase of 305 per cent. Next in the rank as regards the percentage of increase comes the group comprising the miscellaneous occupations classified under "other professional service." Here the increase was 221.9 per cent. The 11,282 women classified in this group in 1900 included 3,405 clergymen, 2,193 journalists, 1,037 architects, designers, draftsmen, etc., and 1,010 lawyers. Of clergymen of this sex and age in 1890 there were 1,143; of journalists, 888; of architects, etc., 327; and of lawyers, 208. The other occupation groups in which the number of women more than doubled are, in order of the percentage of increase, the following: Packers and shippers, janitors and sextons, bookkeepers and accountants, telegraph and telephone operators, nurses and midwives, saleswomen, laborers (not specified), agents, literary and scientific persons, and glovemakers. The two miscellaneous groups "other persons in trade and transportation" and "other manufacturing and mechanical pursuits" also come in this class. The fact that three of the residuary groups are included in this list implies perhaps an increasing diversity of occupations for women.

In all, then, there are 14 occupation groups in which the number of women increased between 1890 and 1900 by more than 100 per cent, although the increase during that interval in the total number of women employed in all occupations was only 34.9 per cent. Many of these groups represent occupations of a relatively high grade requiring a good degree of intelligence and education, and commanding better wages than can be obtained from factory labor or in other pursuits demanding only physical strength and ordinary intelligence. The only occupation group in this list which represents a distinctly low grade of labor is that designated as "laborers (not specified)." To a certain extent the classification under this designation represents a failure to secure explicit information. It is not probable, however, that any of the breadwinners returned as laborers without specification of the kind of labor belonged in the skilled trades or the occupations requiring special education and training. But it may be that if the returns had been more specific the large increase shown for this group would disappear, being distributed among other allied groups.

As pointed out in another connection, the large increase in the number of saleswomen probably is due in part to an improvement in classification, by which saleswomen in 1900 were more carefully distinguished from clerks and copyists than was the case in 1890. Some of the other differences in the growth and relative importance of different occupations may be influenced by similar factors. In general, there is probably some differentiation of occupations in progress, or a tendency toward specialization, which affects the classification and designations both in popular usage and in census returns. For example, the occupation

of housekeeper and stewardess, which shows a rather large percentage of increase, is probably to some extent a differentiation or offshoot from the more comprehensive group of servants and waitresses, for which the percentage of increase is small.

The only occupation groups showing decreases are those of "carpet factory operatives," "woolen mill operatives," and "seamstresses." The first two decreases may be assumed to represent an actual decline in the employment of women in the specified industries; but the significance of the decrease in the number of seamstresses is not altogether certain, because this designation does not stand for a very clearly defined occupation. These 3 groups showing a decrease all come in the general class designated as "manufacturing and mechanical pursuits," and it may be noted the range of the percentages of increase is on the whole lower for the occupations classed under this main head than for the other occupations.

STATISTICS FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS.

In the following pages detailed statistics of women at work are presented for a few selected occupations. To have discussed in equal detail all the occupations in which considerable numbers of women were employed was obviously impracticable, and it is quite probable that some of the occupations that are not included have as good a claim to consideration as some of those that are. But the selection was determined partly with reference to the importance of the occupation as measured by the number of women employed in it and partly with reference to its typical character. Domestic service is represented by servants and laundresses; the needle trades, by seamstresses and dressmakers; the factory industries, by textile mill operatives; commercial pursuits, by saleswomen; clerical service, by clerks and copyists, and by typewriters and stenographers; the professions, by teachers; and agriculture, by farmers.

SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.

The total number of male and female servants and waiters in continental United States reported by the Twelfth Census was 1,560,721. Only three occupations in the Census classification were of greater numerical importance—one being that of farmers, another that of farm laborers, and the third that of general laborers or "laborers (not specified)" comprising persons reported as laborers without specification of the kind of labor performed.

Importance as an occupation for women.—The occupation of servant is of much greater importance for women than for men. In fact, the number of women in continental United States 16 years of age and over who, according to the Twelfth Census, were employed as servants or waitresses (1,165,561) far exceeds the number reported in any other occupation and represents 24.1 per cent, or almost one-fourth, of the total number in all occupations. On the other hand, the number of men 16 years of age and over employed as servants or waiters represents only 1.1 per cent of the total number employed in all occupations. A classification of servants and waiters by sex and age is presented in the following tabular statement:

AGE AND SEX.	BREADWINNERS: 1900.			
	In all occupations.	Employed as servants and waiters.		
		Number.	Per cent.	Per cent distribution.
Continental United States	29,073,233	1,560,721	5.4	100.0
Men 16 years of age and over	22,489,425	257,095	1.1	16.5
Women 16 years of age and over	4,833,630	1,165,561	24.1	74.7
Children 10 to 15 years of age	1,750,178	138,065	7.9	8.8
Boys	1,264,411	19,863	1.6	1.3
Girls	485,767	118,202	24.3	7.6

Of the total number of servants and waiters reported by the Census, 74.7 per cent, or three-fourths, were women 16 years of age and over; 16.5 per cent were men; and the remainder, representing 8.8 per cent, were children 10 to 15 years of age, most of whom were girls.

The group of servants and waiters, as its designation indicates, embraces two rather distinct occupations. The number of persons employed in each has been distinguished in the Census returns, although this distinction is not carried through the various detailed classifications by age, sex, race, nativity, etc. The relative importance of the two subdivisions of this occupation group may, however, be determined from the figures in the following tabular statement:

AGE AND SEX.	SERVANTS AND WAITERS, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.				
	Total.	Servants.		Waiters.	
		Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
10 years and over:					
Both sexes	1,560,721	1,453,677	93.1	107,044	6.9
Male	276,958	212,727	76.8	64,231	23.2
Female	1,283,763	1,240,950	96.7	42,813	3.3
10 to 15 years—					
Both sexes	138,065	134,989	97.8	3,076	2.2
Male	19,863	18,422	92.7	1,441	7.3
Female	118,202	116,567	98.6	1,635	1.4
16 years and over—					
Both sexes	1,442,656	1,318,688	92.7	103,968	7.3
Male	257,095	194,305	75.6	62,790	24.4
Female	1,165,561	1,124,383	96.5	41,178	3.5

Of the total number of servants and waiters, 93.1 per cent were returned as servants and 6.9 per cent as waiters. It is evident that the occupation of waiters is relatively of much less importance for women than for men. Of the women, or females 16 years of age and over, in this occupation group, only 3.5 per cent were waitresses, all the rest, representing 96.5 per cent of the total number, being returned as servants. But of the men in this group, 24.4 per cent were waiters. In the occupation of waiters men outnumber women in the ratio of 3 to 2; but in the occupation of servants there are approximately six women to every man.

Race and nativity.—In the following tabular statement the women employed as servants and waitresses are classified by race and nativity:

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	1,165,561	100.0
Native white—both parents native	305,883	26.2
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	223,327	19.2
Foreign born white	322,062	27.6
Negro	313,078	26.9
Indian and Mongolian	1,211	0.1

It is evident that no one class greatly predominates in this occupation. Native white women of native parentage are almost as numerous as foreign born white women or negro women. The foreign born white servants, however, constitute the largest class. Next in point of number comes the negro, a class almost as large as the foreign born white. The native white servants whose parents were foreign born constitute the smallest class, with the exception of the Indian and Mongolian, whose numbers are comparatively insignificant.

Table XXVII gives for purposes of comparison the race and nativity of men, women, and children employed as servants and waiters.

Of the women employed as servants, 73 per cent were white. But of the men reported in this occupation, hardly more than one-half (51.4 per cent) were of the white race; the remainder were negroes, Indians, or Mongolians. Very few, however, were Indians, the total number of male Indian servants and waiters 10 years of age and over being only 131. Therefore the total for Indians and Mongolians given in the above table consists almost entirely of Mongolians, or Chinese and Japanese. Among child servants there is a similar contrast between the sexes as regards the proportions in which the races are represented, 55.1 per cent of the boys being negroes as compared with 27.3 per cent of the girls.

TABLE XXVII.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of servants and waiters, classified by sex and age, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	SERVANTS AND WAITERS.					
	Aggregate.	Men 16 years of age and over.	Women 16 years of age and over.	Children 10 to 15 years of age.		
				Total.	Boys.	Girls.
	NUMBER.					
All classes	1,560,721	257,095	1,165,561	138,065	19,863	118,202
Native white—both parents native	402,188	46,311	305,883	49,994	5,688	44,306
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	283,250	27,034	223,327	32,889	2,270	30,619
Foreign born white	392,439	58,815	322,062	11,562	761	10,801
Negro	465,734	109,417	313,078	43,239	10,944	32,295
Indian and Mongolian	17,110	15,518	1,211	381	200	181
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.					
All classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Native white—both parents native	25.8	18.0	26.2	36.2	28.6	37.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	18.1	10.5	19.2	23.8	11.4	25.9
Foreign born white	25.1	22.9	27.6	8.4	3.8	9.1
Negro	29.8	42.6	26.9	31.3	55.1	27.3
Indian and Mongolian	1.1	6.0	0.1	0.3	1.0	0.2

It is evident, therefore, that the predominance of females in this occupation is much more marked in the white race than in the negro. It will be found that the female white servants outnumber the male in the proportion of almost 7 to 1, or more accurately 13 to 2, while among negro servants the ratio of females to males is about 3 to 1. The sex distribution on a percentage basis is shown in the following tabular statement:

RACE.	SERVANTS AND WAITERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.				
	Total.	Number.		Per cent.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
All classes	1,560,721	276,958	1,283,763	17.7	82.3
White	1,077,877	140,879	936,998	13.1	86.9
Negro	465,734	120,361	345,373	25.8	74.2
Indian	1,227	131	1,096	10.7	89.3
Mongolian	15,883	15,587	296	98.1	1.9

The composition of the servant class as regards race and nativity, which is shown by states and territories in Table XXVIII, varies widely in different sections of the country, depending of course, to a considerable degree, upon the composition of the general population.

TABLE XXVIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1900.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.								
	Number.					Per cent.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	1,165,561	305,883	223,327	322,062	314,289	26.2	19.2	27.6	27.0
North Atlantic division	446,342	110,350	77,522	211,867	46,603	24.7	17.4	47.5	10.4
New England	118,569	24,664	17,676	69,918	6,311	20.8	14.9	59.0	5.3
Maine	10,832	6,008	1,535	3,191	98	55.5	14.2	29.5	0.9
New Hampshire	6,735	3,046	1,049	2,532	108	45.2	15.6	37.6	1.6
Vermont	6,054	3,224	1,610	1,152	68	53.3	26.6	19.0	1.1
Massachusetts	68,701	8,562	9,522	47,399	3,218	12.5	13.9	69.0	4.7
Rhode Island	8,146	996	1,095	5,185	960	12.2	12.3	63.7	11.8
Connecticut	18,101	2,828	2,955	10,459	1,859	15.6	16.3	57.8	10.3
Southern North Atlantic	327,773	85,686	59,846	141,949	40,292	26.1	18.3	43.3	12.3
New York	174,289	31,938	34,180	93,488	14,683	18.3	19.6	53.6	8.4
New Jersey	38,478	6,469	6,125	17,240	8,644	16.8	15.9	44.8	22.5
Pennsylvania	115,006	47,279	19,541	31,221	16,965	41.1	17.0	27.1	14.8
South Atlantic division	161,379	27,598	3,107	4,116	126,558	17.1	1.9	2.6	78.4
Northern South Atlantic	91,133	18,907	2,965	3,912	65,349	20.7	3.3	4.3	71.7
Delaware	4,024	814	226	492	2,492	20.2	5.6	12.2	61.9
Maryland	28,945	5,527	1,792	2,359	19,267	19.1	6.2	8.1	66.6
District of Columbia	14,694	1,021	362	744	12,567	6.9	2.5	5.1	85.5
Virginia	35,204	5,579	92	130	29,403	15.8	0.3	0.4	83.5
West Virginia	8,266	5,966	493	187	1,620	72.2	6.0	2.3	19.6
Southern South Atlantic	70,246	8,691	142	204	61,209	12.4	0.2	0.3	87.1
North Carolina	21,395	5,114	19	27	16,235	23.9	0.1	0.1	75.9
South Carolina	14,210	853	26	51	13,280	6.0	0.2	0.4	93.5
Georgia	29,032	2,163	53	60	26,756	7.5	0.2	0.2	92.2
Florida	5,609	561	44	66	4,938	10.0	0.8	1.2	88.0
North Central division	366,202	126,527	125,598	87,168	26,909	34.6	34.3	23.8	7.3
Eastern North Central	235,896	85,635	78,275	57,785	14,201	36.3	33.2	24.5	6.0
Ohio	60,953	29,399	16,700	9,850	5,004	48.2	27.4	16.2	8.2
Indiana	29,889	19,003	5,553	1,864	3,469	63.6	18.6	6.2	11.6
Illinois	74,919	20,761	22,369	27,157	4,632	27.7	29.9	36.2	6.2
Michigan	36,542	10,994	13,641	10,994	913	30.1	37.3	30.1	2.5
Wisconsin	33,593	5,478	20,012	7,920	183	16.3	59.6	23.6	0.5
Western North Central	130,306	40,892	47,323	29,383	12,708	31.4	36.3	22.5	9.8
Minnesota	31,648	3,334	16,343	11,643	328	10.5	51.6	36.8	1.0
Iowa	26,588	10,101	10,873	5,143	471	38.0	40.9	19.3	1.8
Missouri	38,670	15,792	8,980	4,267	9,631	40.8	23.2	11.0	24.9
North Dakota	5,275	633	1,974	2,648	20	12.0	37.4	50.2	0.4
South Dakota	4,457	1,003	2,060	1,347	38	22.5	46.4	30.2	0.9
Nebraska	11,818	3,997	4,276	3,070	475	33.8	36.2	26.0	4.0
Kansas	11,850	6,032	2,808	1,265	1,745	50.9	23.7	10.7	14.7
South Central division	148,169	27,436	5,119	3,791	111,823	18.5	3.5	2.6	75.5
Eastern South Central	92,547	17,045	2,034	1,053	72,415	18.4	2.2	1.1	78.2
Kentucky	29,422	8,594	1,676	808	18,344	29.2	5.7	2.7	62.3
Tennessee	27,466	5,831	206	140	21,289	21.2	0.8	0.5	77.5
Alabama	19,979	1,719	103	78	18,079	8.6	0.5	0.4	90.5
Mississippi	15,680	901	49	27	14,703	5.7	0.3	0.2	93.8
Western South Central	55,622	10,391	3,085	2,738	39,408	18.7	5.5	4.9	70.8
Louisiana	19,691	1,924	1,099	612	16,056	9.8	5.6	3.1	81.5
Arkansas	9,748	2,953	214	129	6,452	30.3	2.2	1.3	66.2
Indian Territory	2,031	1,146	51	17	817	56.4	2.5	0.8	40.2
Oklahoma	1,866	1,158	205	97	406	62.1	11.0	5.2	21.8
Texas	22,286	3,210	1,516	1,883	15,677	14.4	6.8	8.4	70.3
Western division	43,469	13,972	11,981	15,120	2,396	32.1	27.6	34.8	5.5
Rocky Mountain	12,442	4,414	3,118	3,978	932	35.5	25.1	32.0	7.5
Montana	2,922	716	865	1,247	94	24.5	29.6	42.7	3.2
Idaho	945	418	316	194	17	44.2	33.4	20.5	1.8
Wyoming	767	312	241	195	19	40.7	31.4	25.4	2.5
Colorado	6,886	2,343	1,583	2,238	722	34.0	23.0	32.5	10.5
New Mexico	922	625	113	104	80	67.8	12.3	11.3	8.7
Basin and Plateau	3,353	729	1,333	1,007	284	21.7	39.8	30.0	8.5
Arizona	543	164	112	154	113	30.2	20.6	28.4	20.8
Utah	2,420	464	1,114	800	42	19.2	46.0	33.1	1.7
Nevada	390	101	107	53	129	25.9	27.4	13.6	33.1
Pacific	27,674	8,829	7,530	10,135	1,180	31.9	27.2	36.6	4.3
Washington	4,776	1,919	1,171	1,535	151	40.2	24.5	32.1	3.2
Oregon	4,182	2,087	1,054	904	137	49.9	25.2	21.6	3.3
California	18,716	4,823	5,305	7,696	892	25.8	28.3	41.1	4.8

In the South most of the female servants are negroes; in the North foreign born whites are represented by large numbers in this occupation. But the relative numerical importance of immigrants as servants is not as great as it is perhaps generally believed to be. The foreign born white servants attain their greatest prominence in some of the North Atlantic states. In Massachusetts 69 per cent of the female servants 16 years of age and over are white women of foreign birth. Next comes Rhode Island, in which the percentage is 63.7. In Connecticut it is 57.8 and in New York 53.6. North Dakota is the only other state in which the white immigrants represent more than one-half of the total number of adult female servants of the age here considered.

On the other hand, there are 8 states and territories in which a majority of the adult female servants are native white born of native parents. These states and territories represent widely separated sections of the United States and diverse economic and social conditions. Two of them are New England states—Maine and Vermont. Another is West Virginia, where the percentage of native white servants of native parentage reaches a maximum, being 72.2. The other states and territories in this list are Indiana, Kansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. These states and territories contain no very large cities and in all of them more than half the total population live in rural districts or in places having less than 2,500 inhabitants. This is probably one reason for the predominance in these states of female white servants of native birth and parentage, the population of foreign birth or parentage being mostly an urban population.

In 10 other states the native white of native parentage, although not constituting a majority of all the female servants 16 years of age and over, form the largest of the four race and nativity classes distinguished in Table XXVIII. These states and the percentages which the native white of native parentage form of the total number of women employed as servants are as follows: Oregon (49.9), Ohio (48.2), New Hampshire (45.2), Idaho (44.2), Pennsylvania (41.1), Missouri (40.8), Wyoming (40.7), Washington (40.2), Colorado (34), and Arizona (30.2).

The native white servants, including those of foreign as well as native parentage, constitute a majority of all the female servants 16 years of age and over in most states outside the South, including all the North Central states except North Dakota, all the Western states, the three northern New England states, and the state of Pennsylvania.

In the South Atlantic and South Central divisions the negro servant predominates, about three-fourths of the women employed as servants and waitresses being of that race. In 4 Southern states—South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi—over 90 per cent are negroes.

In Table XXIX the classification by race and nativity is presented separately for women servants employed in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and for those employed in smaller cities and country districts.

The comparison indicates in a general way the difference between city and country, although not all the population living in the smaller cities and country districts is distinctively rural. The difference as regards the composition of the servant class consists principally in the greater relative importance of the foreign born white servant in the larger cities, and of the native white servant of native parentage in the smaller cities and country districts. In the larger cities 45.3 per cent of the total number of women servants are white immigrants and only 12.6 per cent are native white of native parentage; in the smaller cities and country districts, on the other hand, the percentage for the former class is only 17.2, while that for the latter rises to 34.3. A similar contrast is apparent in the comparison for each of the geographic divisions.

The foreign born white servants attain their greatest relative importance in the larger cities of New England, where they constitute 71.7 per cent of the total number of women servants; the percentage of native white servants of native parentage is highest (45.8) in the smaller cities and country districts of the Eastern North Central division, but is only a little higher there than it is in the corresponding portion of the Southern North Atlantic division.

In the totals for continental United States the percentage of native white servants of foreign parentage is the same in the larger cities as it is in the smaller cities and country districts, being in each class of communities 19.2; while the two percentages are not similarly identical in any of the geographic divisions, the differences that appear are usually not very marked.

TABLE XXIX.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.									
	Number.						Per cent.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		Total.	Negro.	Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS.									
Continental United States	432,500	54,539	82,903	196,031	99,027	98,842	12.6	19.2	45.3	22.9
North Atlantic division	231,787	25,546	37,922	140,714	27,605	27,562	11.0	16.4	60.7	11.9
New England	47,652	4,530	5,999	34,182	2,941	2,939	9.5	12.6	71.7	6.2
Southern North Atlantic	184,135	21,016	31,923	106,532	24,664	24,623	11.4	17.3	57.9	13.4
South Atlantic division	45,821	3,205	1,747	3,057	37,812	37,810	7.0	3.8	6.7	82.5
Northern South Atlantic	36,539	2,926	1,701	2,969	28,943	28,941	8.0	4.7	8.1	79.2
Southern South Atlantic	9,282	279	46	88	8,869	8,869	3.0	0.5	0.9	95.6
North Central division	113,408	20,119	36,498	43,140	13,651	13,646	17.7	32.2	38.0	12.0
Eastern North Central	77,837	13,196	24,439	32,540	7,662	7,660	17.0	31.4	41.8	9.8
Western North Central	35,571	6,923	12,059	10,600	5,989	5,986	19.5	33.9	29.8	16.8
South Central division	25,004	2,446	2,261	1,363	18,934	18,934	9.8	9.0	5.5	75.7
Eastern South Central	14,982	1,360	1,026	647	11,949	11,949	9.1	6.8	4.3	79.8
Western South Central	10,022	1,086	1,235	716	6,985	6,985	10.8	12.3	7.1	69.7
Western division	16,480	3,223	4,475	7,757	1,025	890	19.6	27.2	47.1	6.2
Rocky Mountain	3,044	708	687	1,215	434	434	23.3	22.6	39.9	14.3
Basin and Plateau	1,098	138	440	490	30	29	12.6	40.1	44.6	2.7
Pacific	12,338	2,377	3,348	6,052	561	427	19.3	27.1	49.1	4.5
	IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS.									
Continental United States	733,061	251,344	140,424	126,031	215,262	214,236	34.3	19.2	17.2	29.4
North Atlantic division	214,555	84,804	39,600	71,153	18,998	18,913	39.5	18.5	33.2	8.9
New England	70,917	20,134	11,677	35,736	3,370	3,358	28.4	16.5	50.4	4.8
Southern North Atlantic	143,638	64,670	27,923	35,417	15,628	15,555	45.0	19.4	24.7	10.9
South Atlantic division	115,558	24,393	1,360	1,059	88,746	88,733	21.1	1.2	0.9	76.8
Northern South Atlantic	54,594	15,981	1,264	943	36,406	36,403	29.3	2.3	1.7	66.7
Southern South Atlantic	60,964	8,412	96	116	52,340	52,330	13.8	0.2	0.2	85.9
North Central division	252,794	106,408	89,100	44,028	13,258	13,059	42.1	35.2	17.4	5.2
Eastern North Central	158,059	72,439	53,836	25,245	6,539	6,412	45.8	34.1	16.0	4.1
Western North Central	94,735	33,969	35,264	18,783	6,719	6,647	35.9	37.2	19.8	7.1
South Central division	123,165	24,990	2,858	2,428	92,889	92,641	20.3	2.3	2.0	75.4
Eastern South Central	77,565	15,685	1,008	406	60,466	60,461	20.2	1.3	0.5	78.0
Western South Central	45,600	9,305	1,850	2,022	32,423	32,180	20.4	4.1	4.4	71.1
Western division	26,989	10,749	7,506	7,363	1,371	890	39.8	27.8	27.3	5.1
Rocky Mountain	9,398	3,706	2,431	2,763	498	457	39.4	25.9	29.4	5.3
Basin and Plateau	2,255	591	893	517	254	75	26.2	39.6	22.9	11.3
Pacific	15,336	6,452	4,182	4,083	619	358	42.1	27.3	26.6	4.0

In most of the geographic divisions the colored servants (negro, Indian, and Mongolian) are represented by a percentage which is larger in the cities of over 50,000 than outside such cities, although in the totals for continental United States the difference is the other way, the larger percentage being that for the smaller cities and country districts.

The following tabular statement shows what proportion of the women 16 years of age and over are employed as servants or waitresses in the total population and in each race and nativity class:

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per 10,000.
All classes	23,485,559	1,165,561	496
Native white—both parents native	12,130,161	305,883	252
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,288,969	223,327	521
Foreign born white	4,403,494	322,062	731
Negro	2,589,988	313,078	1,208
Indian and Mongolian	72,947	1,211	166

For the total population the proportion is 496 per 10,000, or approximately 5 (4.96) per cent. In other words, 1 woman in every 20 is a servant or waitress. The proportion varies widely in the different race and nativity classes. For the native white born of native parents it is 252 per 10,000, which is very nearly equivalent to 1 woman in every 40. In proportion to their number this class contributes fewer servants than any other of the four main classes. The negroes are the class in which the proportion of women employed in this occupation is largest. Of the negro women 16 years of age and over 12 per cent (1,208 per 10,000), or almost one-eighth, are servants. It is noticeable and significant that the ratio for white women whose parents were immigrants (521 per 10,000) is considerably smaller than that for white women who are themselves immigrants (731 per 10,000). Apparently the second generation in our population of foreign origin is more averse to domestic service than their parents were; or perhaps it would be more correct to say that they are better qualified to enter other occupations and therefore have a wider choice in making their selection, and that at the same time they are as a class in a better economic position and therefore under less necessity of taking up breadwinning pursuits.

TABLE XXX.—*Number and proportion of servants and waitresses in female population 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—					
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per 10,000.		Number.	Per 10,000.
All classes	5,855,790	432,500	739	17,629,769	733,061	416
Native white—both parents native	1,703,955	54,539	320	10,426,206	251,344	241
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,700,209	82,903	488	2,588,760	140,424	542
Foreign born white	2,095,206	196,031	936	2,308,288	126,031	546
Negro	353,787	98,842	2,794	2,236,201	214,236	958
Indian and Mongolian	2,633	185	703	70,314	1,026	146

Table xxx shows the difference in the proportion of women employed as servants and waitresses between the population living in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and the population living in smaller cities and country districts. The one is a distinctively urban population; the other a mixed population, being in part urban and in part rural. In a way this table measures the difference between the two classes of communities as regards the opportunities and the demand for the employment of women as servants. In the larger cities the occupation employs 739 women in every 10,000, or approximately 1 woman in every 14. In the smaller cities and country districts the corresponding ratio is 416 per 10,000, or 1 in 24. The difference doubtless represents mainly the influence of the distinctively rural communities in lowering the latter ratio. Probably the ratio for the smaller cities alone would not differ so much from that for cities of over 50,000.

The great importance of domestic service as an occupation for negro women is strikingly shown by this table. Nearly 28 per cent (2,794 per 10,000), or more than one-fourth of the negro women living in cities of over 50,000 inhabitants are employed as servants or waitresses. For foreign born white women the corresponding ratio is only one-third as great, being 936 per 10,000, or less than 1 in 10. The two classes of native white women, as would be expected, show still lower ratios, the lowest being that for the native white of native parentage.

The comparison by race and nativity for women living in smaller cities and country districts is in some respects less significant, being affected by the dissimilarity in the local distribution of the classes compared. The native white of native parentage are concentrated in the country districts to a greater degree than either the foreign born or the native born of foreign parentage, and therefore represent to a greater extent the conditions prevailing in a distinctively rural environment. The figures for the negro living outside the larger cities represent mainly conditions in the agricultural regions of the South. Thus outside the larger cities the opportunity to find employment as servants must differ widely for these different classes.

The proportion of women employed as servants and waitresses in any class of the population depends partly upon the proportion who are under the necessity of earning their living or entering any occupation as breadwinners, and partly, of course, upon the extent to which the breadwinners select this particular occupation as the means by which the necessary livelihood may be most readily obtained. Attention has been called to the fact that the occupation of servant comprises about one-fourth of all the women who are breadwinners. In Table xxxi the varying importance of this occupation is shown for the female breadwinners in the principal race and nativity classes.

TABLE XXXI.—*Number and percentage of servants and waitresses among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	1,165,561	24.1
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	305,883	17.3
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	223,327	20.5
Foreign born white	840,011	322,062	38.3
Negro	1,119,621	313,078	28.0
Indian and Mongolian	10,288	1,211	11.8

Of foreign born white women who are breadwinners, 38.3 per cent are servants and waitresses. This is the highest percentage shown in the above table. Of the total number of negro women who are breadwinners only 28 per cent are servants and waitresses. But here again the difference is one of environment rather than of race, the negro population being to a large extent rural, while the foreign born white are concentrated in cities. Therefore in determining the influence of race and nativity more significant results may be obtained by a comparison restricted to city population such as is presented in the first three columns of Table XXXII.

TABLE XXXII.—*Number and percentage of servants and waitresses among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—					
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	1,657,728	432,500	26.1	3,175,902	733,061	23.1
Native white—both parents native	414,954	54,539	13.1	1,357,012	251,344	18.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	554,806	82,903	14.9	535,938	140,424	26.2
Foreign born white	494,044	196,031	39.7	345,967	126,031	36.4
Negro	193,317	98,842	51.1	926,304	214,236	23.1
Indian and Mongolian	607	185	30.5	10,681	1,026	9.6

Table XXXII brings out the fact that 51.1 per cent of all negro women living in cities of over 50,000 inhabitants and engaged in gainful occupation are servants or waitresses, while the corresponding percentage for the foreign born white women is but 39.7, being only a little higher than it was in Table XXXI, which gave totals for continental United States. It appears, therefore, that in the larger cities one-half of the negro women seeking employment and two-fifths of the white immigrant women enter domestic service. The proportion for the native white women is much smaller, being only 13.1 per cent for those of native parentage and 14.9 per cent for those whose parents were immigrants. Considerable significance may be attached to the fact that the difference between these two percentages is small, because it would seem to indicate that the children of immigrants if born and educated in this country are hardly more willing to become servants when seeking employment than are the children of native Americans. This similarity between the two classes of breadwinners living in the larger cities is, however, not apparent in all parts of the United States. It obtains only in the North Atlantic states. In the largest cities of the other main geographic divisions the percentage of breadwinners who are servants is somewhat higher among the native white women of foreign parentage than among those of native parentage, as will be seen by reference to Table XXXIII, in which the percentages are given for each main and minor geographic division.

TABLE XXXIII.—PERCENTAGE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	PERCENTAGE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—									
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.					In smaller cities and country districts.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.				Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	26.1	13.1	14.9	39.7	51.1	23.1	18.5	26.2	36.4	23.1
North Atlantic division	25.3	12.0	12.0	40.8	64.7	26.3	21.1	19.1	39.1	69.6
New England	21.0	8.8	8.6	34.5	49.6	21.2	14.9	13.0	34.3	67.0
Southern North Atlantic	26.6	13.0	12.9	43.3	67.1	29.8	24.3	23.9	46.4	70.1
South Atlantic division	31.0	7.7	9.5	30.7	48.6	18.5	11.5	14.4	21.2	22.3
Northern South Atlantic	31.5	8.1	9.9	31.6	54.5	32.0	20.4	17.9	29.1	44.5
Southern South Atlantic	29.0	5.0	4.0	15.2	36.0	13.4	6.3	4.0	6.6	16.6
North Central division	25.5	16.8	20.2	37.4	48.7	29.0	23.6	33.3	35.6	47.9
Eastern North Central	24.8	16.8	18.6	36.7	51.7	29.3	25.3	32.0	35.5	48.4
Western North Central	27.2	16.7	21.4	39.7	45.3	28.5	20.5	35.6	35.6	47.5
South Central division	32.1	14.6	16.9	30.3	43.8	16.6	10.8	13.4	18.6	19.6
Eastern South Central	31.8	12.5	14.1	33.1	44.3	17.0	11.4	10.4	14.3	19.7
Western South Central	32.6	13.6	20.3	28.1	43.0	16.1	9.9	15.9	19.8	19.4
Western division	23.5	13.6	17.7	40.7	53.0	22.1	18.1	24.5	31.3	44.5
Rocky Mountain	25.4	13.2	21.2	46.7	56.5	24.7	18.8	28.3	35.8	46.8
Basin and Plateau	28.6	15.0	28.9	36.2	(1)	15.4	15.9	23.0	17.0	36.8
Pacific	22.7	13.6	16.3	40.1	49.5	22.1	18.0	23.0	31.9	43.8

[1] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The relative importance of domestic service as an occupation for women in the larger cities of different sections of the United States is indicated by the percentages presented in the first column of Table XXXIII. The importance of this occupation is least in New England cities, where only 21 per cent of all the women who are breadwinners are servants or waitresses. This means probably not that there is less demand for servants in that part of the country than elsewhere, but that there are more opportunities for women to obtain employment in other pursuits. In the Western South Central states the corresponding percentage is 32.6, representing nearly one-third of all the women who are breadwinners. In general, the occupation is of less importance in the cities of the North Atlantic, North Central, and Western states than in those of the Southern states.

For the smaller cities and country districts the comparison by geographic divisions shows a wider variation in the percentage which servants and waitresses formed of the total number of women employed as breadwinners. The extremes appear in two adjacent geographic divisions, the maximum percentage, 32, being that for the Northern South Atlantic division and the minimum, 13.4, that for the Southern South Atlantic. It is evident that in the former division the conditions resemble those in the North, where, as compared with the South, the percentages here considered are, in general, high. The percentages are affected by a diversity of influences not always easy to determine or measure. But it may be noted that outside the larger cities the principal occupations which rival domestic service in the employment of women are those connected with the factory and the farm. In the Southern South Atlantic states large numbers of white women are employed in the cotton mills, which are mostly located in small towns or villages, and large numbers of women, both white and negro, are employed on farms. In the North the mill industries are concentrated to a greater extent in cities of over 50,000 inhabitants and women are not employed so generally in farm work. This is one reason, doubtless, why the servants' occupation in the country and small towns attains greater importance in the North than in the South. Another reason is found in the difference between the two sections as regards the demand for servants outside the large cities. In the rural districts of the South—particularly in the section designated as the black belt—there are comparatively few families employing servants. The contrast between North and South as regards the demand for servants is probably not so great in the larger cities as it is in the smaller cities and country districts.

A comparison by race and nativity for the several geographic divisions brings out the fact that both in the larger cities and in the smaller cities and country districts the percentage of servants in the total number of adult female breadwinners is almost invariably higher—and usually much higher—for the foreign born white than for either class of native white, and similarly the percentage for the negro is almost without exception higher than that for the foreign born white. There is no such uniform relationship between the percentages for the two classes of native white women. Usually the higher percentage is that for the native white of foreign parentage. But in the smaller cities and country districts of the North and South Atlantic minor divisions the difference is the other way; and, as already remarked, in the larger cities of the North Atlantic divisions the two percentages are almost exactly the same.

For each class of native white women the percentage of servants in the total number of breadwinners is generally higher in the smaller cities and country districts than in the larger cities of the same geographic division. For the foreign born white and the negro the higher percentage as a rule is that for the large cities.

Parentage.—Table XXXIV classifies the female breadwinners 10 years of age and over with respect to the birthplace of their parents, and gives the number and percentage of servants and waitresses in each specified class.

TABLE XXXIV.—*Number and percentage of servants and waitresses among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	1,283,763	24.1
Native parentage	3,247,907	693,679	21.4
Native white	1,926,637	350,189	18.2
All other	1,321,270	343,490	26.0
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	590,084	28.5
Austria	25,590	8,909	34.8
Bohemia	25,719	6,316	24.6
Canada (English)	102,181	27,521	26.9
Canada (French)	78,979	8,092	10.3
Denmark	15,580	6,867	44.1
England and Wales	158,912	28,708	18.1
France	21,164	4,719	22.3
Germany	538,192	160,939	29.9
Hungary	14,631	6,087	41.6
Ireland	634,201	195,000	30.8
Italy	26,093	2,386	9.2
Norway	47,934	22,519	47.0
Poland	38,536	8,815	22.9
Russia	40,816	5,853	14.3
Scotland	46,173	9,516	20.6
Sweden	81,148	45,794	56.4
Switzerland	15,125	4,646	30.7
Other countries	47,689	14,400	30.2
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	22,997	20.4

For the purposes of this report it was deemed inadvisable to make this tabulation for adult female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, since the figures for breadwinners 10 years of age and over could be easily derived from the Twelfth Census report on Occupations, and are probably equally significant

in showing comparatively the extent to which the women of the different parent nativities engage in the specified occupation.

The term "foreign parentage," as here used, means that one or both parents were born in foreign countries, the term "native parentage," that both parents were born in the United States, or that one was born in the United States, the birthplace of the other being unknown. The specified foreign countries indicate the birthplace of both parents or of one parent where the other was born in the United States. "Mixed foreign parentage" includes the cases in which the father and mother were born in different foreign countries.

Naturally most persons of native parentage were natives of the United States, but a few were of foreign birth. On the other hand, a large proportion of the children of foreign born parents were themselves foreign born. The population of native parentage other than the native white consists mostly of negroes; but this total may include also some Indians and Mongolians, together with the comparatively few white persons born abroad whose parents were native of the United States.

Essentially, then, the difference between the two classes of native parentage distinguished in this table is that between the native white of native parentage and the negro. The latter are included with "all other" of native parentage, and make up the greater part of that total, which comprises a percentage of servants and waitresses (26) which is considerably larger than that for the native white of native parentage (18.2), but not as large as that for the total number of female breadwinners of foreign parentage (28.5).

Of the principal countries represented by our population of foreign parentage, Ireland ranks first in the number of female servants. Almost one-third of the total number of female servants and waitresses of foreign parentage are Irish. Germany is represented by the next largest number. The other countries are of much less importance, so far as actual numbers are concerned. But there are several other countries which are represented by a much larger percentage of servants in the total number of female breadwinners. The highest percentage is that for Sweden. Of the female breadwinners representing this country, 56.4 per cent, or more than one-half, are servants and waitresses. The next highest percentage is that for the sister country of Norway, and the next is that for Denmark. In proportion to its importance the immigration from these Scandinavian countries contributed more female servants than that from other parts of Europe. Noticeably low are the percentages for the Italians, the Canadian French, and the Russians. The last are probably for the most part Russian Jews. It is evident that the women of these nationalities are not attracted by domestic service. The Canadian French prefer the textile mills, and the Russian Jews and the Italians the sweat shops.

Age.—The age distribution of women employed as servants is shown in Table XXXV. Rather more than one-half—53.4 per cent—of the total number 16 years of age and over are under 25, or 16 to 24 years of age. Of the total number of women in the United States (area of enumeration) [1] employed in all occupations, 44.2 per cent are in this age period, so that in domestic service the proportion of young women would appear to be considerably above the average. But when the 47 occupations employing more than 5,000 women are ranked with reference to the percentage of breadwinners 16 to 24 years of age it will be found that the servant's occupation occupies a median position, there being 22 occupations for which the percentage is higher and 24 for which it is lower (see Table XXIV).

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE XXXV.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.									
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	1,166,708	100.0	305,975	100.0	223,381	100.0	322,190	100.0	313,091	100.0
16 to 24 years	622,494	53.4	186,886	61.1	144,614	64.7	156,149	48.5	133,895	42.8
25 to 34 years	280,416	24.0	57,718	18.9	50,111	22.4	92,498	28.7	79,415	25.4
35 to 44 years	127,966	11.0	26,723	8.7	19,598	8.8	36,225	11.2	45,161	14.4
45 to 54 years	73,069	6.3	17,410	5.7	6,368	2.9	20,180	6.3	28,997	9.3
55 to 64 years	37,282	3.2	10,253	3.4	1,884	0.8	10,659	3.3	14,454	4.6
65 years and over	19,576	1.7	5,380	1.8	582	0.3	5,291	1.6	8,299	2.7
Age unknown	5,905	0.5	1,605	0.5	224	0.1	1,188	0.4	2,870	0.9

The foreign born white and the negro women employed as servants comprise a much smaller percentage of young women than either class of native white female servants, indicating the probability that the former as a class take up this occupation later in life and at the same time are less likely to give it up as they grow older. Negro women in particular continue to follow this occupation to a very great extent after they are married. The figures for the native white of foreign parentage reflect the age composition of this class in the general population. Being the daughters of immigrants they comprise a relatively large number of young women.

TABLE XXXVI.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Native white—						Foreign born white.			Negro.		
				Both parents native.			One or both parents foreign born.								
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	1,166,708	24.2	1,773,109	305,975	17.3	1,091,200	223,381	20.5	840,686	322,190	38.3	1,119,653	313,091	28.0
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	622,494	29.1	753,266	186,886	24.8	593,435	144,614	24.4	347,759	156,149	44.9	439,725	133,895	30.4
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	280,416	23.9	399,376	57,718	14.5	297,916	50,111	16.8	202,322	92,498	45.7	266,956	79,415	29.7
35 to 44 years	676,548	127,966	18.9	244,556	26,723	10.9	130,749	19,598	15.0	119,316	36,225	30.3	178,810	45,161	25.3
45 to 54 years	441,457	73,099	16.6	182,214	17,410	9.6	46,925	6,368	13.6	86,136	20,180	23.4	124,024	28,997	23.4
55 to 64 years	256,926	37,282	14.5	120,650	10,253	8.5	15,982	1,884	11.8	54,563	10,659	19.5	64,535	14,454	22.4
65 years and over	138,691	19,576	14.1	67,655	5,380	8.0	5,368	582	10.8	28,262	5,291	18.7	36,539	8,299	22.7
Age unknown	18,211	5,905	32.4	5,392	1,605	29.8	825	224	27.2	2,328	1,188	51.0	9,064	2,870	31.7

Table XXXVI shows what proportion of the total number of female breadwinners in each specified age period are servants or waitresses. These percentages indicate a decline in the relative importance of domestic service as an occupation for female breadwinners in the older years of life. Of the breadwinners of this sex 16 to 24 years of age, 29.1, or nearly 3 in 10, are servants; of those 55 years and over, hardly more than 14 per cent, or 1 in 7, are employed in that occupation. This decline, however, is not in any way abnormal, nor is it the result of conditions peculiar to the servant's occupation. It simply reflects the importance of farming as an occupation for women in middle life and old age (see Table 17, page 162). The large number of women adopting the farmer's occupation late in life naturally tends to reduce the relative importance of other occupations in the older age periods. The reduction is more marked for the native white of native parentage than for the other race and nativity classes, because the great majority of the women who become farmers are of that nativity.

The influence of farming as an occupation is of course eliminated when the comparison is restricted to cities of over 50,000 population. When that is done, it will be found that the occupation of servant still undergoes a decline in its relative importance for the older age periods, but the decline is not very marked. On the other hand, by confining the comparison to smaller cities and country districts the decline is very much accentuated. The contrast is shown in the following tabular statement:

AREA.	PERCENTAGE OF SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS: 1900.			
	16 years and over.	16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 years and over.
Continental United States	24.1	29.1	22.1	15.5
In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants	26.1	27.0	26.0	22.5
In smaller cities and country districts	23.1	30.3	19.8	13.3

Marital condition.—Table XXXVII shows the marital condition of women employed as servants and waitresses.

TABLE XXXVII.—DISTRIBUTION,[1] BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.											
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.		Indian and Mongolian.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.							
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	1,166,708	100.0	305,975	100.0	223,381	100.0	322,190	100.0	313,091	100.0	2,071	100.0
Single[2]	895,084	76.7	245,042	80.1	201,559	90.2	280,616	87.1	167,060	53.4	807	39.0
Married	120,941	10.4	24,843	8.1	9,568	4.3	15,322	4.8	70,205	22.4	1,003	48.4
Widowed	136,065	11.7	30,530	10.0	10,535	4.7	24,863	7.7	69,911	22.3	226	10.9
Divorced	14,618	1.3	5,560	1.8	1,719	0.8	1,389	0.4	5,915	1.9	35	1.7

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

In domestic service, as in most occupations, the majority of women are single, but as usual there are marked variations in this respect in the different race and nativity classes. The percentage of single is highest for those native white servants who are the daughters of immigrants. This class, it will be remembered, likewise comprises the largest percentage of young women, or women under 25. There is, of course, a natural and obvious connection between these two facts. Usually the percentage of single women in any classification varies with the percentage of young women. The more women under 25, the more single women. Nevertheless, in this occupation the correspondence in the order of the two percentages is not complete. The class of native white servants of native parentage, while ranking second in the percentage of young women, ranks third in the percentage of single women, the second rank as regards the latter percentage being held by the foreign born white servants.

The contrasts between the different classes as regards the relations between marital condition and age are perhaps more effectively shown by the following tabular statement, which compares the percentage 25 years of age and over with the percentage that are or have been married, comprising the married, widowed, and divorced:

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.	
	Per cent 25 years of age and over.	Per cent married, widowed, and divorced.
Native white—both parents native	38.9	19.9
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	35.3	9.8
Foreign born white	51.5	12.9
Negro	57.2	46.6

It will be noted that in comparison with the percentage 25 years of age and over, the percentage married, widowed, and divorced appears to be exceptionally small among the foreign born white servants. They are as a class much older than the native white of native parentage, yet they include a smaller proportion of women who are or have been married. In age there is not much contrast between them and the negro; but in marital status the difference is very great. It is evident that for some reason matrimony is less usual among the immigrant white women employed as servants than among the native white female servants. Possibly the difference may indicate that the foreign born white servants have a tendency to continue in this occupation unless they marry; while the native white in older years are apt to leave the occupation whether they marry or not. It is evident that large numbers of negro women continue to work as servants after marriage, the married, widowed, and divorced forming 46.6 per cent of the total number of adult female servants of this race.

Comparison with census of 1890.—In making comparisons with the census of 1890 it is necessary to lower the age limit for adults so as to include all persons 15 years of age and over, the women 16 years of age and over not being separately tabulated at that census. The total for 1900 in the comparative tables which follow is, therefore, somewhat greater than that used in the previous discussion.

The number of female servants 15 years and over increased from 1,145,255 in 1890 to 1,213,828 in 1900, an increase of 6 per cent in ten years. This is a very small percentage of increase as compared with that for most of the other principal occupations in which women are engaged (see Table XXVI), and as compared with an increase of 34.9 per cent in the total number of women engaged in all occupations and of 20.7 in the total population.

TABLE XXXVIII.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over, employed as servants and waitresses, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	1,213,828	100.0	1,145,255	100.0	68,573	6.0
Native white—both parents native	323,703	26.7	311,479	27.2	12,224	3.9
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	237,539	19.6	195,641	17.1	41,898	21.4
Foreign born white	327,700	27.0	366,097	32.0	[2] 38,397	[2] 10.5
Negro	322,731	26.6	270,889	23.7	51,842	19.1
Indian and Mongolian	2,155	0.2	1,149	0.1	1,006	87.6

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease.

In the number of native white women of native parentage employed as servants the increase was even smaller, being only 3.9 per cent. The number of native white women of foreign parentage and of negro women in this occupation increased more rapidly, the increase for each of these two classes being about 20 per cent. For the foreign born white women, on the other hand, there was a decrease of 10.5 per cent. As a result of these changes the relative importance of immigrant women in the servant class underwent a rather marked decline. In 1890 they constituted 32 per cent of the total number of women employed as servants and waitresses; in 1900 only 27 per cent. Probably this decline reflects the decreased immigration in the decade 1890 to 1900, as compared with 1880 to 1890, and also indicates the change in the character of the immigration. The newer immigration, consisting largely of Russians, Italians, and Poles, is less inclined to enter domestic service than was the case with the older immigration of Irish and Germans. This is indicated by a comparison of the percentages presented in Table XXXIV, while the decline in the total immigration and the change in its character are indicated by Table XXXIX.

TABLE XXXIX.—*Number of immigrants arriving in the United States during the decades 1881 to 1890 and 1891 to 1900.*

COUNTRY OF LAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE.	1881 to 1890		1891 to 1900		Increase (+) or decrease (−).	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	5,246,613	100.0	3,687,564	100.0	−1,559,049	−29.7
Austria-Hungary	353,722	6.7	592,707	16.1	+238,985	+67.6
England	644,680	12.3	216,726	5.9	−427,954	−66.4
German Empire	1,452,970	27.7	505,152	13.7	−947,818	−65.2
Ireland	655,482	12.5	388,416	10.5	−267,066	−40.7
Italy[1]	307,310	5.9	651,893	17.7	+344,583	+112.1
Russian Empire and Finland	230,116	4.4	505,290	13.7	+275,174	+119.6
Sweden	391,776	7.5	226,266	6.1	−165,510	−42.2
All other	1,210,557	23.1	601,114	16.3	−609,443	−50.3

[1] Including Sicily and Sardinia.

The fact that the number of women employed in all occupations increased over 34 per cent while the number employed as servants increased only 6 per cent involves, of course, a very considerable decline in the relative importance of domestic service as an occupation for women. The change is indicated in Table XL, which includes all female breadwinners and female servants 15 years of age and over.

TABLE XL.—*Number and percentage of servants and waitresses among female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Servants and waitresses.		Total.	Servants and waitresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,007,069	1,213,828	24.2	3,712,144	1,145,255	30.9
Native white—both parents native	1,825,850	323,703	17.7	1,310,148	311,479	23.8
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,138,129	237,539	20.9	774,751	195,641	25.3
Foreign born white	861,963	327,700	38.0	756,006	366,097	48.4
Negro	1,162,250	322,731	27.8	867,717	270,889	31.2

[1] For area of enumeration.

In 1890 female servants formed 30.9 per cent of the total number of female breadwinners 15 years of age and over. In 1900 the percentage had declined to 24.2. Every class distinguished in the above table participated to a greater or less degree in this decline in the relative importance of the servant's occupation. But the change was most marked for the native white of native parentage, the percentage for this class showing a reduction of one-fourth. For the foreign born white and the native white of foreign parentage the reduction in the percentage was nearly the same, being in each case about one-fifth. Among negro female breadwinners the change was less striking, but even for them the servant's occupation was of less importance relatively in 1900 than it was in 1890.

Table XLI shows the changes between 1890 and 1900 in the age distribution of the female servants in each race and nativity class and the increase or decrease in each age group.

This table brings out the fact that in 1900, as compared with 1890, there was an actual though slight decrease in the total number of young women 15 to 24 years of age employed as servants. As the majority of female servants are in this age period, the decrease had a preponderant influence upon the total numbers, and accounts for the fact already noted that the total increase was small. The comparison by race and nativity shows, further, that the decrease for the youngest age period is confined to foreign born white servants, and for that class is very marked, representing a reduction of 21.6 per cent, or more than one-fifth. The other nativity classes show an increase in this

age group, but in the case of each of the two classes of native white servants the percentage of increase is much less than that for the older age groups.

TABLE XLI.—*Increase in the number of women 15 years of age and over employed as servants and waitresses, classified by race, nativity, and age, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.					
Total	1,213,828	100.0	1,145,255	100.0	68,573	6.0
15 to 24 years	669,614	55.2	674,968	58.9	[2]5,354	[2]0.8
25 to 34 years	280,416	23.1	238,132	20.8	42,284	17.8
35 to 44 years	127,966	10.5	104,039	9.1	23,927	23.0
45 to 54 years	73,069	6.0	64,770	5.7	8,299	12.8
55 to 64 years	37,282	3.1	34,253	3.0	3,029	8.8
65 years and over	19,576	1.6	21,031	1.8	[2]1,455	[2]6.9
Age unknown	5,905	0.5	8,062	0.7	[2]2,157	[2]26.8
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	323,703	100.0	311,479	100.0	12,224	3.9
15 to 24 years	204,614	63.2	199,930	64.2	4,684	2.3
25 to 34 years	57,718	17.8	53,202	17.1	4,516	8.5
35 to 44 years	26,723	8.3	24,989	8.0	1,734	6.9
45 to 54 years	17,410	5.4	16,223	5.2	1,187	7.3
55 to 64 years	10,253	3.2	9,037	2.9	1,216	13.5
65 years and over	5,380	1.7	5,531	1.8	[2]151	[2]2.7
Age unknown	1,605	0.5	2,567	0.8	[2]962	[2]37.5
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	237,539	100.0	195,641	100.0	41,898	21.4
15 to 24 years	158,772	66.8	146,795	75.0	11,977	8.2
25 to 34 years	50,111	21.1	36,791	18.8	13,320	36.2
35 to 44 years	19,598	8.3	7,952	4.1	11,646	146.5
45 to 54 years	6,368	2.7	2,380	1.2	3,988	167.6
55 to 64 years	1,884	0.8	788	0.4	1,096	139.1
65 years and over	582	0.2	402	0.2	180	44.8
Age unknown	224	0.1	533	0.3	[2]309	[2]58.0
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	327,700	100.0	366,097	100.0	[2]38,397	[2]10.5
15 to 24 years	161,659	49.3	206,103	56.3	[2]44,444	[2]21.6
25 to 34 years	92,498	28.2	90,597	24.7	1,901	2.1
35 to 44 years	36,225	11.1	32,357	8.8	3,868	12.0
45 to 54 years	20,180	6.2	20,004	5.5	176	0.9
55 to 64 years	10,659	3.3	10,346	2.8	313	3.0
65 years and over	5,291	1.6	4,865	1.3	426	8.8
Age unknown	1,188	0.4	1,825	0.5	[2]637	[2]34.9
	NEGRO.					
Total	322,731	100.0	270,889	100.0	51,842	19.1
15 to 24 years	143,535	44.5	121,599	44.9	21,936	18.0
25 to 34 years	79,415	24.6	57,282	21.1	22,133	38.6
35 to 44 years	45,161	14.0	38,557	14.2	6,604	17.1
45 to 54 years	28,997	9.0	26,079	9.6	2,918	11.2
55 to 64 years	14,454	4.5	14,041	5.2	413	2.9
65 years and over	8,299	2.6	10,215	3.8	[2]1,916	[2]18.8
Age unknown	2,870	0.9	3,116	1.2	[2]246	[2]7.9

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease.

Practically all the servants between 15 and 24 years reported at any census must have entered that occupation at some time during the previous ten years, or since the last preceding census was taken. The figures, then, clearly point to the conclusion that the total number of young women entering domestic service is decreasing, being smaller between 1890 and 1900 than it was between 1880 and 1890, and that this decrease results from a large decrease in the number of young immigrant women of that age period, partially offset by a small increase in the number of native white women and a considerable increase in the number of negro women.

It is probable that the majority of the servants 25 to 34 years of age also adopted this occupation within the preceding ten years. But as regards servants over 35, the probability is that most of them took up the occupation before they were 25 years of age, and therefore not within the preceding decade. So far as this is the case, the increases in the older age groups reflect changes that took place at earlier periods in the history of the occupation. Thus the figures for the foreign born white servants, showing an exceptionally large increase in the age group 35 to 44, suggests that there was a great increase in the number of immigrant women entering the occupation about fifteen or twenty years prior to 1900. This seems probable in view of the fact that there was a great increase of immigration in the period 1880 to 1890 as compared with the preceding decennial period, and the further fact that this immigration consisted largely of Germans and Irish.

The figures in the above table show also noticeably large increases for the native white of foreign parentage in each of the three age periods included between the age of 35 and that of 64; and, if the hypothesis just suggested is correct, this would indicate that a marked increase in the number of native white women of foreign parentage entering this occupation began about the middle of the century. It may not be immediately obvious why this should have been the case. It should be remembered, however, that the native women who were the daughters of immigrants and had reached middle life or old age in 1900 represent a very early immigration. The immigrant parents of those who were over 35 in 1900 must have come to this country prior to 1865; and, similarly, the immigrant parents of those who were over 35 in 1890 must have migrated prior to 1855. Now the immigration figures show a large and increasing influx of immigrants in the period 1844 to 1854. Then came a financial panic and later the Civil War. The tide of immigration was suddenly and greatly checked, and did not regain its former magnitude until about 1870. It seems not improbable, therefore, that between 1854 and 1870 the supply of servants was being recruited largely from the ranks of the children of those immigrants who came to this country prior to 1855 rather than by newly arrived immigrants.

It may be admitted that this historical explanation of these large increases for the older age groups appearing in a comparison of the figures for 1900 with those for 1890 is in some degree hypothetical. Unfortunately the figures for earlier censuses are not

presented in sufficient detail to make possible a statistical verification of its correctness. The alternative assumption that these increases record recent changes may seem to the reader more plausible, as indicating that as the supply of young servants is becoming inadequate, older women, having less prejudice against domestic service and perhaps less adaptability for other pursuits, are induced to enter the occupation in increasing numbers, or to remain in it longer than they formerly did instead of giving place to younger women.

But whatever interpretation may be adopted for the exceptionally large increases in the older age groups, the following conclusions appear to be established beyond question: The supply of servants is increasing but slowly, and is not keeping pace with the growth of population. The young women who join the ranks of the breadwinners show an increasing tendency to select other occupations in preference to domestic service. It looks, therefore, as if the servant problem was destined to become even more acute in the future than it is at present. Although the number of negro women entering the occupation still shows a considerable increase, the supply of foreign born servants is actually diminishing.

In Table XLII the increase or decrease between 1890 and 1900 in the number of female servants 10 years of age and over is shown by race and nativity for each geographic division.

TABLE XLII.—*Increase in the number of females 10 years of age and over employed as servants and waitresses, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.			
Continental United States	1,283,763	1,216,639	67,124	5.5
North Atlantic division	475,370	455,376	19,994	4.4
New England	122,482	117,621	4,861	4.1
Southern North Atlantic	352,888	337,755	15,133	4.5
South Atlantic division	184,115	187,065	[1] 2,950	[1] 1.6
Northern South Atlantic	102,825	107,799	[1] 4,974	[1] 4.6
Southern South Atlantic	81,290	79,266	2,024	2.6
North Central division	410,573	383,787	26,786	7.0
Eastern North Central	262,991	242,474	20,517	8.5
Western North Central	147,582	141,313	6,269	4.4
South Central division	167,053	147,851	19,202	13.0
Eastern South Central	104,309	96,280	8,029	8.3
Western South Central	62,744	51,571	11,173	21.7
Western division	46,652	42,560	4,092	9.6
Rocky Mountain	13,399	12,146	1,253	10.3
Basin and Plateau	3,769	3,646	123	3.4
Pacific	29,484	26,768	2,716	10.1

[1] Decrease.

TABLE XLII.—*Increase in the number of females 10 years of age and over employed as servants and waitresses, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890*—Continued.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.			
Continental United States	350,189	334,427	15,762	4.7
North Atlantic division	124,087	123,426	661	0.5
New England	26,181	27,836	[1] 1,655	[1] 5.9
Southern North Atlantic	97,906	95,590	2,316	2.4
South Atlantic division	33,098	37,506	[1] 4,408	[1] 11.8
Northern South Atlantic	22,599	23,881	[1] 1,282	[1] 5.4
Southern South Atlantic	10,499	13,625	[1] 3,126	[1] 22.9
North Central division	144,139	130,532	13,607	10.4
Eastern North Central	97,355	87,145	10,210	11.7
Western North Central	46,784	43,387	3,397	7.8
South Central division	33,534	31,070	2,464	7.9
Eastern South Central	20,845	21,523	[1] 678	[1] 3.2
Western South Central	12,689	9,547	3,142	32.9
Western division	15,331	11,893	3,438	28.9
Rocky Mountain	4,938	4,356	582	13.4
Basin and Plateau	852	603	249	41.3
Pacific	9,541	6,934	2,607	37.6
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.			
Continental United States	253,946	207,248	46,698	22.5
North Atlantic division	85,822	80,531	5,291	6.6
New England	18,912	17,689	1,223	6.9
Southern North Atlantic	66,910	62,842	4,068	6.5
South Atlantic division	3,514	3,907	[1] 393	[1] 10.1
Northern South Atlantic	3,357	3,674	[1] 317	[1] 8.6
Southern South Atlantic	157	233	[1] 76	[1] 32.6
North Central division	145,587	108,556	37,031	34.1
Eastern North Central	89,933	71,791	18,142	25.3
Western North Central	55,654	36,765	18,889	51.4
South Central division	5,796	5,298	498	9.4
Eastern South Central	2,232	2,445	[1] 213	[1] 8.7
Western South Central	3,564	2,853	711	24.9
Western division	13,227	8,956	4,271	47.7
Rocky Mountain	3,408	2,141	1,267	59.2
Basin and Plateau	1,513	1,285	228	17.7
Pacific	8,306	5,530	2,776	50.2
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.			
Continental United States	332,863	374,253	[1] 41,390	[1] 11.1
North Atlantic division	216,784	220,721	[1] 3,937	[1] 1.8
New England	70,901	67,711	3,190	4.7
Southern North Atlantic	145,883	153,010	[1] 7,127	[1] 4.7
South Atlantic division	4,247	6,201	[1] 1,954	[1] 31.5
Northern South Atlantic	4,040	5,679	[1] 1,639	[1] 28.9
Southern South Atlantic	207	522	[1] 315	[1] 60.3
North Central division	92,231	122,349	[1] 30,118	[1] 24.6
Eastern North Central	60,750	73,303	[1] 12,553	[1] 17.1
Western North Central	31,481	49,046	[1] 17,565	[1] 35.8
South Central division	4,020	5,639	[1] 1,619	[1] 28.7
Eastern South Central	1,083	1,931	[1] 848	[1] 43.9
Western South Central	2,937	3,708	[1] 771	[1] 20.8

[1] Decrease.

TABLE XLII.—*Increase in the number of females 10 years of age and over employed as servants and waitresses, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890*—Continued.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE—continued.			
Western division	15,581	19,343	[1] 3,762	[1] 19.4
Rocky Mountain	4,092	4,834	[1] 742	[1] 15.3
Basin and Plateau	1,094	1,489	[1] 395	[1] 26.5
Pacific	10,395	13,020	[1] 2,625	[1] 20.2
	NEGRO, INDIAN, AND MONGOLIAN.			
Continental United States	346,765	300,711	46,054	15.3
North Atlantic division	48,677	30,698	17,979	58.6
New England	6,488	4,385	2,103	48.0
Southern North Atlantic	42,189	26,313	15,876	60.3
South Atlantic division	143,256	139,451	3,805	2.7
Northern South Atlantic	72,829	74,565	[1] 1,736	[1] 2.3
Southern South Atlantic	70,427	64,886	5,541	8.5
North Central division	28,616	22,350	6,266	28.0
Eastern North Central	14,953	10,235	4,718	46.1
Western North Central	13,663	12,115	1,548	12.8
South Central division	123,703	105,844	17,859	16.9
Eastern South Central	80,149	70,381	9,768	13.9
Western South Central	43,554	35,463	8,091	22.8
Western division	2,513	2,368	145	6.1
Rocky Mountain	961	815	146	17.9
Basin and Plateau	310	269	41	15.2
Pacific	1,242	1,284	[1] 42	[1] 3.3

[1] Decrease.

In one minor division—the Northern South Atlantic—the total number of female servants was actually smaller in 1900 than in 1890. The decrease was more than sufficient to counterbalance the small increase in the Southern South Atlantic division, thus producing a decrease in the total for the South Atlantic division. The minor geographic division showing the largest increase in the actual number of female servants is the Eastern North Central; but the largest percentage of increase was that shown for the Western South Central division. The decrease in the number of foreign born white female servants is apparent in every geographic division except New England. In the southern divisions there are comparatively few servants of this class, and therefore the fact that the largest percentage of decrease is that for one of these divisions is not especially significant; outside the South, the Western North Central division shows the largest percentage of decrease and also the largest numerical decrease for this class of servants.

It may seem rather remarkable that the largest increase of negro (including Indian and Mongolian) female servants, whether measured by numbers or by percentages, took place in a northern division—the Southern North Atlantic—while the adjoining division on the south—the Northern South Atlantic—shows an actual though small decrease, and is the only division in which there was any decrease shown for this class of servants. This contrast between the figures for the two divisions would seem to indicate that there had been a northward migration of negro female servants, and that in the North they were to a certain extent taking the place of the foreign born white servants whose numbers, as just pointed out, are decreasing. In the Southern North Atlantic division the percentage of negroes in the total number of female servants increased from 7.8 in 1890 to 12 in 1900.

Family relationship.—In Table XLIII the women employed as servants and waitresses in 27 selected cities (the list of which appears in Table XLIV) are classified according to their relationship to the families in which they live.

Of the 327,573 servants and waitresses in these cities, 67,046, or 20.5 per cent, were living at home and 260,527, or 79.5 per cent, were either living with their employer or boarding. It may be taken for granted that all but a small number of the latter were in fact living with their employers, this mode of life being customary for women employed in domestic service. The proportion living at home varies widely in the different classes. Of the negro women who are servants, 39.2 per cent live at home, or 2 in 5; of the foreign born white women only 10.6 per cent, or 1 in 10. The small percentage for the latter is indicative of the comparative isolation of the immigrant servant, who in many instances is without near relatives in this country. Similar reasons explain the fact that the percentage living at home is smaller for the native white whose parents were native Americans than for the native white whose parents were immigrants. Many of the former are country girls and but few of the latter; therefore the former when they enter domestic service are more apt to be separated from their relatives either because they migrate to cities in search of employment, or, if employed in the country, because distances are too great to permit living at home.

TABLE XLIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, CLASSIFIED BY MARITAL CONDITION, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR TWENTY-SEVEN SELECTED CITIES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.												
	Number.							Per cent.					
	Aggregate.	Living at home.					Living with employer or boarding.	Living at home.					Living with employer or boarding.
		Total.	Heads of families.	Living with—				Total.	Heads of families.	Living with—			
				Father.	Mother.	Other relative.				Father.	Mother.	Other relative.	
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.												
All classes	327,573	67,046	16,177	18,808	9,772	22,289	260,527	20.5	4.9	5.7	3.0	6.8	79.5
Native white—both parents native	36,108	6,279	1,331	2,297	883	1,768	29,829	17.4	3.7	6.4	2.4	4.9	82.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	62,017	15,683	1,816	7,584	3,091	3,192	46,334	25.3	2.9	12.2	5.0	5.1	74.7
Foreign born white	156,689	16,571	4,558	4,152	1,428	6,433	140,118	10.6	2.9	2.6	0.9	4.1	89.4
Negro	72,715	28,509	8,470	4,774	4,370	10,895	44,206	39.2	11.6	6.6	6.0	15.0	60.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).												
All classes	263,055	40,943	4,286	17,488	8,295	10,874	222,112	15.6	1.6	6.6	3.2	4.1	84.4
Native white—both parents native	28,662	4,285	375	2,156	741	1,013	24,377	15.0	1.3	7.5	2.6	3.5	85.0
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	54,678	13,016	546	7,310	2,796	2,364	41,662	23.8	1.0	13.4	5.1	4.3	76.2
Foreign born white	137,196	10,719	1,243	3,965	1,278	4,233	126,477	7.8	0.9	2.9	0.9	3.1	92.2
Negro	42,490	12,923	2,122	4,057	3,480	3,264	29,567	30.4	5.0	9.5	8.2	7.7	69.6
	MARRIED.												
All classes	28,124	12,189	2,252	767	737	8,433	15,935	43.3	8.0	2.7	2.6	30.0	56.7
Native white—both parents native	3,047	830	205	89	65	471	2,217	27.2	6.7	2.9	2.1	15.5	72.8
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	2,886	1,047	236	144	129	538	1,839	36.3	8.2	5.0	4.5	18.6	63.7
Foreign born white	6,723	1,982	489	99	60	1,334	4,741	29.5	7.3	1.5	0.9	19.8	70.5
Negro	15,461	8,329	1,322	435	483	6,089	7,132	53.9	8.6	2.8	3.1	39.4	46.1
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.												
All classes	36,394	13,914	9,639	553	740	2,982	22,480	38.2	26.5	1.5	2.0	8.2	61.8
Native white—both parents native	4,399	1,164	751	52	77	284	3,235	26.5	17.1	1.2	1.8	6.5	73.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,453	1,620	1,034	130	166	290	2,833	36.4	23.2	2.9	3.7	6.5	63.6
Foreign born white	12,770	3,870	2,826	88	90	866	8,900	30.3	22.1	0.7	0.7	6.8	69.7
Negro	14,764	7,257	5,026	282	407	1,542	7,507	49.2	34.0	1.9	2.8	10.4	50.8

Naturally the percentage living at home is much greater for married, widowed, and divorced women than for single women. It would perhaps be expected that the percentage would be greater for the married women than for the widowed and divorced; yet in each of the three classes of white servants the two percentages differ but little. Probably a considerable number of the married women who are employed as domestic servants are deserted wives or wives separated from their husbands. This is presumably the case with most of those married women living at home and classified as heads of families, since in the census a wife would not be accepted as head of the family so long as she was living with her husband. Of course the returns convey no indication of what the relations between husband and wife may be in those cases where married female servants live in the home of their employers. Married women living at home and with their husbands appear in this classification as living "with other relatives." This explains why the percentage in this class is so much larger for married women than for either of the other two marital classes distinguished in the above table.

Table XLIV shows the distribution by family relationship of women who are servants for each of the 27 selected cities.

TABLE XLIV.—DISTRIBUTION, BY FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES, FOR TWENTY-SEVEN SELECTED CITIES: 1900.

CITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS SERVANTS AND WAITRESSES.												
	Number.							Per cent.					
	Aggregate.	Living at home.					Living with employer or boarding.	Living at home.					Living with employer or boarding.
		Total.	Heads of families.	Living with—				Total.	Heads of families.	Living with—			
				Father.	Mother.	Other relative.				Father.	Mother.	Other relative.	
Total	327,573	67,046	16,177	18,808	9,772	22,289	260,527	20.5	4.9	5.7	3.0	6.8	79.5
Atlanta, Ga	4,139	2,613	1,091	255	355	912	1,526	63.1	26.4	6.2	8.6	22.0	36.9
Baltimore, Md	15,725	5,468	1,342	1,228	839	2,059	10,257	34.8	8.5	7.8	5.3	13.1	65.2
Boston, Mass	19,348	2,783	744	563	392	1,084	16,565	14.4	3.8	2.9	2.0	5.6	85.6
Buffalo, N. Y	7,781	1,679	230	889	234	326	6,102	21.6	3.0	11.4	3.0	4.2	78.4
Chicago, Ill	33,241	5,846	1,045	2,361	780	1,660	27,395	17.6	3.1	7.1	2.3	5.0	82.4
Cincinnati, Ohio	8,499	2,331	694	741	409	487	6,168	27.4	8.2	8.7	4.8	5.7	72.6
Cleveland, Ohio	7,310	1,464	218	716	184	346	5,846	20.0	3.0	9.8	2.5	4.7	80.0
Detroit, Mich	6,422	1,116	159	482	170	305	5,306	17.4	2.5	7.5	2.6	4.7	82.6
Fall River, Mass	988	154	32	30	22	70	834	15.6	3.2	3.0	2.2	7.1	84.4
Indianapolis, Ind	3,966	1,198	317	327	212	342	2,768	30.2	8.0	8.2	5.3	8.6	69.8
Jersey City, N. J	3,038	665	95	252	102	216	2,373	21.9	3.1	8.3	3.4	7.1	78.1
Kansas City, Mo	4,228	940	271	197	191	281	3,288	22.2	6.4	4.7	4.5	6.6	77.8
Louisville, Ky	6,657	2,770	912	474	438	946	3,887	41.6	13.7	7.1	6.6	14.2	58.4
Lowell, Mass	1,619	249	63	53	34	99	1,370	15.4	3.9	3.3	2.1	6.1	84.6
Milwaukee, Wis	5,744	1,095	119	607	142	227	4,649	19.1	2.1	10.6	2.5	4.0	80.9
Minneapolis, Minn	5,640	651	156	197	65	233	4,989	11.5	2.8	3.5	1.2	4.1	88.5
New Orleans, La	8,899	4,890	1,506	898	746	1,740	4,009	54.9	16.9	10.1	8.4	19.6	45.1
New York, N. Y.:													
Brooklyn borough	26,624	3,855	708	1,369	590	1,188	22,769	14.5	2.7	5.1	2.2	4.5	85.5
Manhattan and Bronx boroughs	68,165	9,072	2,530	1,918	1,045	3,579	59,093	13.3	3.7	2.8	1.5	5.3	86.7
Newark, N. J	4,659	823	175	315	132	201	3,836	17.7	3.8	6.8	2.8	4.3	82.3
Paterson, N. J	1,186	173	49	59	23	42	1,013	14.6	4.1	5.0	1.9	3.5	85.4
Philadelphia, Pa	35,509	5,236	1,139	1,397	685	2,015	30,273	14.7	3.2	3.9	1.9	5.7	85.3
Pittsburg, Pa	7,790	1,476	181	717	246	332	6,314	18.9	2.3	9.2	3.2	4.3	81.1
Providence, R. I	4,322	656	191	167	101	197	3,666	15.2	4.4	3.9	2.3	4.6	84.8
Rochester, N. Y	3,293	466	120	140	73	133	2,827	14.2	3.6	4.3	2.2	4.0	85.8
St. Louis, Mo	13,393	2,616	501	915	503	697	10,777	19.5	3.7	6.8	3.8	5.2	80.5
St. Paul, Minn	4,694	682	126	317	73	166	4,012	14.5	2.7	6.8	1.6	3.5	85.5
Washington, D. C	14,694	6,079	1,463	1,224	986	2,406	8,615	41.4	10.0	8.3	6.7	16.4	58.6

For most of these cities the percentage living with their employers or boarding is fairly uniform, ranging between 75 and 85. But in cities where the negro servant predominates this percentage is much smaller, while the percentage returned as heads of families is exceptionally large. Probably the other variations between the different cities are also to a large extent the result of difference in the race or nativity composition of the servant class.

LAUNDRESSES.

According to the census of 1900 there were 328,935 women 16 years of age and over engaged in the occupation of laundress in continental United States. This occupation included 6.8 per cent of the total number of adult female breadwinners and gave employment to a larger number than any other occupation except three—servants and waitresses, agricultural laborers, and dressmakers. It is, moreover, an occupation largely confined to the female sex, the total number of females 10 years of age and over (335,282) reported as laundresses constituting 86.9 per cent of all the persons engaged in laundry work in this country in 1900. Of these females, 325,351, or 97 per cent, were engaged in hand laundry work, while only 9,931, or 3 per cent, were employed in steam laundries. The 50,683 males employed in laundry work included 12,014 engaged in steam laundries and 38,669 doing hand laundry work. Among the latter are probably included all, or nearly all, the 25,314 male Chinese who were engaged in laundry work.

This occupation is for the most part an industry of the home, enabling a large class of women to maintain the family to which they belong, or materially assist in its support, without the necessity of special technical training or experience and without seriously interfering with their household duties.

Race and nativity.—Table XLV gives the distribution by race and nativity of women 16 years of age and over employed as laundresses in continental United States in 1900 for cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and for smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE XLV.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of laundresses 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Aggregate.		In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.		In smaller cities and country districts.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	328,935	100.0	113,801	100.0	215,134	100.0
Native white—both parents native	41,643	12.7	9,234	8.1	32,409	15.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	28,727	8.7	16,481	14.5	12,246	5.7
Foreign born white	42,774	13.0	26,446	23.2	16,328	7.6
Negro	215,042	65.4	61,616	54.1	153,426	71.3
Indian and Mongolian	749	0.2	24	(1)	725	0.3

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The native whites of either native or foreign parentage supplied about 21 per cent of all the laundresses in continental United States in 1900, while the foreign born whites and negroes, who probably represent a lower grade of labor, furnished about 79 per cent. Of the total number of women in this country, more than one-half were native whites of native parentage, but this nativity class furnished only one-eighth of the total number of laundresses. The negro race, representing only 11 per cent of the total number of women, comprised 64.5 per cent of all the laundresses and found this occupation the third in importance in their choice of employments.

If the race and nativity distribution of the laundresses is compared with that of the women engaged in each of the other 46 occupations employing at least 5,000 women, it will be found that in no occupation was a smaller percentage formed by native whites of native parentage and that in only two was a larger percentage formed by negroes. In the percentage of native whites of foreign parentage the occupation of the laundress ranked forty-fourth and in that of foreign born whites thirtieth (see Table XXIII, page 34).

Comparing the distribution for the large cities with that for the rural communities, it is evident that the negroes and native whites of native parents were considerably more important in the rural districts than in the cities, while the reverse is true as regards the native whites of foreign parentage and foreign born whites; but in both sections the negroes made up the bulk of the workers in this occupation.

TABLE XLVI.—*Per cent distribution,[1] by race and nativity, of laundresses 16 years of age and over, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	Number.	Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	328,935	12.7	8.7	13.0	65.6
North Atlantic division	58,675	18.8	20.8	39.7	20.7
New England	15,004	17.1	19.2	47.2	16.5
Southern North Atlantic	43,671	19.4	21.4	37.1	22.1
South Atlantic division	101,174	4.4	0.6	0.5	94.4
Northern South Atlantic	38,942	6.6	1.5	1.1	90.8
Southern South Atlantic	62,232	3.1	0.1	0.1	96.8
North Central division	61,037	27.2	20.5	24.1	28.2
Eastern North Central	36,572	28.9	23.5	27.1	20.6
Western North Central	24,465	24.7	16.1	19.5	39.7
South Central division	99,236	6.7	1.5	1.6	90.2
Eastern South Central	60,618	5.9	1.0	0.4	92.7
Western South Central	38,618	7.9	2.3	3.5	86.3
Western division	8,813	32.7	21.0	31.1	15.2
Rocky Mountain	3,213	47.2	17.0	22.6	13.2
Basin and Plateau	1,301	10.8	15.1	47.7	26.3
Pacific	4,299	28.5	25.8	32.4	13.3

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 185.

As shown by Table XLVI, the negroes practically monopolize the laundry work of the Southern states, forming 94.4 per cent of the number of laundresses in the South Atlantic division and 90.2 per cent of those in the South Central division. This is a natural result of the fact that they constituted about one-third of the entire population of these sections, but even in the other divisions where they formed less than 2.5 per cent of the inhabitants they comprised from 13.2 to 39.7 per cent of the total number of laundresses. In New England, the Southern North Atlantic, the Basin and Plateau, and the Pacific divisions the foreign born whites were more numerous than any other nativity class, forming 47.2 per cent of the total number of laundresses in New England, 37.1 per cent in the Southern North Atlantic, 47.7 per cent in the Basin and Plateau, and 32.4 per cent in the Pacific sections. In the North Central division also the foreign born whites made up a large proportion of the total number of laundresses.

Table XLVII exhibits the number and the proportion of laundresses among female breadwinners, classified by race and nativity, for cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants, and for smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE XLVII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF LAUNDRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Laundresses.		Total.	Laundresses.		Total.	Laundresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	328,935	6.8	1,657,728	113,801	6.9	3,175,902	215,134	6.8
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	41,643	2.4	414,954	9,234	2.2	1,357,012	32,409	2.4
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	28,727	2.6	554,806	16,481	3.0	535,938	12,246	2.3
Foreign born white	840,011	42,774	5.1	494,044	26,446	5.4	345,967	16,328	4.7
Negro	1,119,621	215,042	19.2	193,317	61,616	31.9	926,304	153,426	16.6
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	749	6.6	607	24	4.0	10,681	725	6.8

The women of continental United States employed as laundresses accounted for about one-fifteenth (6.8 per cent) of the total number of females engaged in gainful occupations in 1900. Among the native white women of native parentage only 2.4 per cent of the breadwinners were engaged in the occupation of laundress, while of the negro women who were breadwinners, 19.2 per cent, or almost one-fifth were employed in this occupation.

The percentage of laundresses in the total number of females engaged in gainful employment was practically the same for both city and country. This similarity between city and country was also shown by the three Caucasian nativity classes. For the negro race, on the other hand, the percentage was 31.9 in the larger cities, as compared with 16.6 in the smaller urban communities and rural districts, representing a proportion for the larger cities just about double that for the country and smaller cities. This contrast is explained by the fact that a large proportion of the country negro women are engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the cities negro women who are compelled to become breadwinners must, of course, take up other pursuits, and in consequence the percentage of laundresses among them was larger.

Parentage.—Table XLVIII gives the number and per cent of laundresses, by nationality of parents, among the female breadwinners 10 years of age and over in 1900.

In this table the negro makes up the bulk of the "all other" group under "native parentage." Therefore it is not surprising that this group comprises the largest actual number of laundresses and the largest percentage in the total number of breadwinners gainfully employed. The native white laundresses of native parentage were second numerically, aggregating 42,777, which was, however, only 2.2 per cent of all the women of that nativity who worked for a living. Only the French Canadians, with 1.7 per cent, and Russians, with 1 per cent, had a lower percentage of their total number of breadwinners thus employed. In the population of foreign parentage, many of whom were also of foreign birth, the laundresses with Irish parents exceeded all the other nationalities, numbering 27,333; those of German parentage, with 20,315, ranked next in numerical importance. The percentages for these two nationalities were 4.3 and 3.8, respectively. The women of French parentage had the highest proportion, 5.1 per cent, of their breadwinners doing laundry work, though eight of the foreign countries specified in this table are represented by larger actual numbers engaged in this employment.

TABLE XLVIII.—*Number and percentage of laundresses among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Laundresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	335,282	6.3
Native parentage	3,247,907	259,903	8.0
Native white	1,926,637	42,777	2.2
All other	1,321,270	217,126	16.4
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	75,379	3.6
Austria	25,590	554	2.2
Bohemia	25,719	876	3.4
Canada (English)	102,181	2,190	2.1
Canada (French)	78,979	1,331	1.7
Denmark	15,580	569	3.7
England and Wales	158,012	3,816	2.4
France	21,164	1,069	5.1
Germany	538,192	20,315	3.8
Hungary	14,631	323	2.2
Ireland	634,201	27,333	4.3
Italy	26,093	604	2.3
Norway	47,934	1,793	3.7
Poland	38,536	1,607	4.2
Russia	40,816	405	1.0
Scotland	46,173	1,060	2.3
Sweden	81,148	3,931	4.9
Switzerland	15,125	560	3.7
Other countries	47,689	4,124	8.7
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	2,919	2.6

Age.—Table XLIX shows the distribution by age of laundresses, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration).[1]

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE XLIX.—*Distribution, by age, of laundresses 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	NUMBER.				
Total	329,359	41,680	28,738	42,835	215,043
16 to 24 years	76,576	9,987	11,100	6,493	48,757
25 to 34 years	81,352	8,869	7,121	8,398	56,639
35 to 44 years	77,094	9,967	6,605	11,552	48,765
45 to 54 years	54,028	7,619	2,888	9,291	34,059
55 to 64 years	26,300	3,755	813	4,982	16,690
65 years and over	11,157	1,283	182	1,952	7,701
Age unknown	2,852	200	29	167	2,432
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	23.3	24.0	38.6	15.2	22.7
25 to 34 years	24.7	21.3	24.8	19.6	26.3
35 to 44 years	23.4	23.9	23.0	27.0	22.7
45 to 54 years	16.4	18.3	10.0	21.7	15.8
55 to 64 years	8.0	9.0	2.8	11.6	7.8
65 years and over	3.4	3.1	0.6	4.6	3.6
Age unknown	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.4	1.1

Practically three-fourths (71.4 per cent) of all the women who reported their occupation as that of laundress were between the ages of 16 and 44, and were nearly equally divided between the three age periods included within these limits, the age period 25 to 34 years slightly predominating. The special significance of this age distribution is the fact that the percentage of young women in the occupation is small and the percentage of middle aged and old women is large, as compared with most other occupations (see Table XXIV, page 36). This is due mainly to the fact that the occupation can be carried on at home, and therefore by a woman with a family.

TABLE L.—*Number and percentage of laundresses among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Laundresses. Number.	Laundresses. Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	329,359	6.8
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	76,576	3.6
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	81,352	6.9
35 to 44 years	676,548	77,094	11.4
45 to 54 years	441,457	54,028	12.2
55 to 64 years	256,926	26,300	10.2
65 years and over	138,691	11,157	8.0
Age unknown	18,211	2,852	15.7

Table L shows that the percentage of female breadwinners who were laundresses increased with advancing age. The fact that while the total number of female breadwinners in the country decreased rapidly with advancing age the number of laundresses decreased very slowly or not at all, indicates that the number of women in middle age or older who take up this occupation for a livelihood, or to supplement the earnings of other members of the family, is large, as compared with the total number of women who are obliged to work at this time of life. The percentage of laundresses in the total number of female breadwinners reaches its maximum in the age period 45 to 54 years.

Marital condition.—The following tabular statement shows the number and percentage of laundresses in the United States (area of enumeration) in 1900, distributed by race and nativity and by marital condition:

RACE AND NATIVITY.	LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.				
	Number.	Per cent.[1] Single.[2]	Per cent.[1] Married.	Per cent.[1] Widowed.	Per cent.[1] Divorced.
All classes	329,359	28.8	34.0	34.8	2.4
Native white—both parents native	41,680	33.5	24.7	37.3	4.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	28,738	56.9	16.2	24.6	2.3
Foreign born white	42,835	34.0	21.8	42.2	2.0
Negro	215,043	23.1	40.5	34.3	2.1

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over. For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 21, page 170.
[2] Including unknown.

In this occupation the proportion of single was highest among native whites of foreign parents and lowest among negroes, while the reverse was true for the proportion married. Practically 57 per cent of the native white laundresses of foreign parentage were single and only 23.1 per cent of the negroes. The married negro laundresses constituted 40.5 per cent of all the negro women thus employed, as compared with 24.7 per cent for native white of native parentage, 21.8 per cent for foreign born white, and 16.2 per cent for native white of foreign parents.

Among the foreign born white laundresses the widows predominated, aggregating 42.2 per cent of the total number, the largest proportion of widows among the laundresses of any race and nativity class. Widows also predominated among the native white laundresses of native parentage, comprising 37.3 per cent of the total number in this nativity group.

Of the 47 occupations employing more than 5,000 women each, there are only 3 in which the percentage of married women was larger than it was for laundresses, and only 5 in which the percentage of widowed women was larger (see Table XXV, page 38).

Comparison with census of 1890.—The increase between 1890 and 1900 in the number of female breadwinners 15 years of age and over engaged as laundresses is shown in Table LI.

TABLE LI.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as laundresses, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS LAUNDRESSES.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	332,665	100.0	215,121	100.0	117,544	54.6
Native white—both parents native	42,322	12.7	19,517	9.1	22,805	116.8
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	29,641	8.9	12,698	5.9	16,943	133.4
Foreign born white	43,107	13.0	31,905	14.8	11,202	35.1
Negro	216,528	65.1	150,430	69.9	66,098	43.9
Indian and Mongolian	1,067	0.3	571	0.3	496	86.9

[1] For area of enumeration.

Between the years 1890 and 1900 the total number of laundresses 15 years of age and over increased 117,544, or 54.6 per cent. The percentage of increase was much greater for the native white than for the foreign born white or the negro.

Table LII shows the number of laundresses in 1900 and 1890 and the percentage they formed of female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity. For each race and nativity class the percentage was somewhat larger at the end of the decade than at the beginning, thus indicating a general though not very marked increase in the relative importance of this occupation.

TABLE LII.—*Number and percentage of laundresses among female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Laundresses.		Total.	Laundresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,007,069	332,665	6.6	3,712,144	215,121	5.8
Native white—both parents native	1,825,850	42,322	2.3	1,310,148	19,517	1.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,138,129	29,641	2.6	774,751	12,698	1.6
Foreign born white	861,963	43,107	5.0	756,006	31,905	4.2
Negro	1,162,250	216,528	18.6	867,717	150,430	17.3

[1] For area of enumeration.

Table LIII shows the number of laundresses per 10,000 population at the censuses of 1900 and 1890 for each main geographic division, from which it may be noted how the changes in the number of laundresses compared with the changes in population.

TABLE LIII.—*Number of laundresses 10 years of age and over per 10,000 population, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	NUMBER OF LAUNDRESSES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER PER 10,000 POPULATION.	
	1900	1890
Continental United States	44	34
North Atlantic	28	21
South Atlantic	99	89
North Central	24	15
South Central	72	55
Western	22	14

The number of laundresses 10 years of age and over per 10,000 population in continental United States increased from 1890 to 1900 for the country as a whole and for every geographic division. Perhaps this reflects the growth in the wealth and prosperity of the country, which has probably reduced the proportion of housewives doing their own laundry work, and thus increased the demand for professional laundresses. On the other hand, the increase in the proportion of laundresses has without doubt been retarded in some degree by the introduction of the steam laundry.

It is probable that the noticeable contrast between the North and the South as regards the proportion of laundresses in the total population is due to the fact that the steam laundry has attained greater prominence in the North, and the further fact that there are large numbers of Chinese laundrymen in the northern cities doing work which would otherwise be done by women. In the combined population of the two southern divisions there was approximately 1 laundress to every 120 persons, and in the rest of the country only 1 to every 392 persons.

Family relationship.—In order to present further data concerning the women who are breadwinners, special tables have been prepared from the Census schedules, showing certain facts in regard to family relationship of this class of women in 27 selected cities.[1] While as applied to the occupation of laundress this tabulation represents conditions in the larger cities of the country in 1900, it may be noted that 22 out of these 27 cities are northern cities, and therefore the totals reflect conditions in the North rather than in the South where the majority of the laundry workers are found.

The following tabular statement gives the total number of laundresses 16 years of age and over in these 27 selected cities in 1900, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity:

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

MARITAL CONDITION.	LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN 27 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
Total	80,342	5,809	12,373	21,373	40,781
Single (including unknown)	27,270	2,984	7,662	8,165	8,456
Married	23,066	1,083	1,582	3,889	16,512
Widowed and divorced	30,006	1,742	3,129	9,319	15,813

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

In Table LIV the number of laundresses in each class as given above are distributed on a percentage basis according to their relationship to the head of the family in which they live.

TABLE LIV.—*Per cent distribution,[1] by family relationship, of laundresses 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.6	77.9	83.6	74.7	87.2
Heads of families	38.4	30.0	25.6	46.9	39.1
With father	10.1	19.5	27.1	7.3	5.1
With mother	7.6	11.0	16.2	3.6	6.5
With other relative	26.5	17.5	14.7	16.8	36.5
Boarding[2]	17.4	22.1	16.4	25.3	12.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	67.8	70.7	80.5	49.6	73.0
Heads of families	13.6	5.9	4.7	13.1	24.9
With father	25.0	35.0	41.1	16.4	15.1
With mother	16.9	17.8	22.8	7.8	20.0
With other relative	12.4	12.1	11.9	12.2	13.0
Boarding[2]	32.2	29.3	19.5	50.4	27.0
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	91.6	83.6	86.4	89.9	93.0
Heads of families	18.3	26.4	28.2	29.8	14.1
With father	3.3	4.2	6.5	3.1	3.0
With mother	2.8	4.0	5.7	1.2	2.9
With other relative	67.2	49.0	46.0	55.8	73.1
Boarding[2]	8.4	16.4	13.6	10.1	7.0
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	89.2	86.9	89.9	90.3	88.6
Heads of families	76.5	73.5	75.2	83.7	72.8
With father	1.8	2.5	3.5	1.0	1.9
With mother	2.7	3.8	5.3	1.0	3.1
With other relative	8.2	7.1	5.9	4.6	10.8
Boarding[2]	10.8	13.1	10.1	9.7	11.4

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Table LIV shows that 82.6 per cent of the laundresses 16 years of age and over in the selected cities in 1900 were living at home and 17.4 per cent were boarding or living with employer. It is probable that practically all the laundresses boarding either worked in steam laundries or went out to work by the day. The percentage boarding was largest for the foreign born white and smallest for the negro.

Nearly two-fifths of the laundresses living at home, or 38.4 per cent of the total number, were heads of the families in which they lived; 26.5 per cent were living with their husbands or relatives other than parents; and the remaining 17.7 per cent were living with father or mother. The percentage of laundresses returned as heads of families was highest among the foreign born whites, for whom it was 46.9, the next highest percentage being that for negroes. The percentage of negro laundresses living with "other relative" is exceptionally large, because so large a proportion of them are married women living with their husbands.

Among the single the proportion living with father or mother was much larger for the native white than for the foreign born white or negro. Noticeably large is the percentage of boarders among the single foreign born white. As would be expected for the married class the number living with husband swells the proportion classified as living with "other relative," making it larger than it is in any other marital class. This proportion is exceptionally large for negroes, constituting 73.1 per cent of the total number married. The comparatively large proportion of married white women returned as heads of families is probably indicative of large numbers separated from their husbands. The widowed and divorced laundresses for every race and nativity class were nearly all heads of the families in which they lived, while the proportion of those living in other relationship to the family was small.

Other breadwinners in the family.—In Table LV the laundresses in the 27 cities under consideration, classified by race, nativity, and marital condition, are so distributed as to show the economic position of the laundresses so far as it can be indicated by the number of breadwinners in the family to which they are related.

Of the total number of laundresses included in this tabulation, more than one-fifth, or 21.9 per cent, were apparently the sole support of the families to which they belonged. That this percentage is exceptionally large is indicated by the fact that in the total for all occupations exclusive of servants and waitresses the corresponding percentage is only 10.9 (see Table xxi, page 30). The foreign born whites ranked first in this respect, 27.5 per cent of the laundresses of this nativity class having no other breadwinner in the family. This is consistent with the fact that an exceptionally large proportion of them were widowed or divorced (see tabular statement above). The families in which there was a laundress having the assist-

ance of one other breadwinner were most numerous among negroes, in which racial class the proportion of married women was largest. The families having two or more than two other wage-earners besides the laundress attained their greatest prominence among the native whites of foreign parentage, which accords with the fact, as indicated by Table LIV, that the proportion of single women living with their parents is exceptionally large in this nativity class.

TABLE LV.—*Per cent distribution.*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of laundresses 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF LAUNDRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.6	77.9	83.6	74.7	87.2
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	21.9	19.2	15.5	27.5	21.3
One other	29.9	25.6	24.5	25.4	34.5
Two other	16.2	17.2	20.3	12.5	16.8
More than two other	14.6	16.0	23.4	9.2	14.6
Boarding[2]	17.4	22.1	16.4	25.3	12.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	67.8	70.7	80.5	49.6	73.0
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	12.5	7.4	6.5	12.0	20.3
One other	17.7	19.5	20.0	13.8	18.7
Two other	17.0	20.7	22.7	11.2	16.0
More than two other	20.6	23.1	31.2	12.5	18.0
Boarding[2]	32.2	29.3	19.5	50.4	27.0
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	91.6	83.6	86.4	89.9	93.0
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	11.5	17.7	17.1	19.9	8.5
One other	48.0	40.9	40.1	45.3	49.9
Two other	17.4	13.5	16.2	15.0	18.4
More than two other	14.7	11.4	13.0	9.7	16.3
Boarding[2]	8.4	16.4	13.6	10.1	7.0
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	89.2	86.9	89.9	90.3	88.6
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	38.5	40.2	36.7	44.4	35.3
One other	27.0	26.3	27.3	27.2	26.8
Two other	14.6	13.5	16.3	12.6	15.5
More than two other	9.1	6.8	9.6	6.1	11.0
Boarding[2]	10.8	13.1	10.1	9.7	11.4

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Of the laundresses who were widowed or divorced 38.5 per cent appear to have been the sole support of their families. In this marital class the negro laundresses had apparently the most assistance from other members of the family, while the foreign born white had the least. But the differences are not very striking.

SEAMSTRESSES.

In continental United States at the Twelfth Census 138,724 women 16 years of age and over were classified as seamstresses and they formed 91.9 per cent of the total number of persons included in that occupation.

The occupation of seamstress is one that is not very clearly defined by its designation. Naturally the Census Office classified as seamstress everyone that was so returned on the enumerator's schedule, which means everyone that called herself a seamstress or was so designated by the enumerator. But there were many other designations[1] returned which for the purposes of classification were considered equivalent to the term "seamstress." The list indicates that the occupation includes many of the women working in sweat shops; but it probably includes also a considerable number of women who go out to do sewing by the day. Probably many of the seamstresses reported for the smaller towns and rural districts come into the latter class.

Of the occupations which gave employment to at least 5,000 women, there were 9 in which the number of women was larger than in this occupation of seamstress, but only 3 in which women formed a greater percentage of the total number of persons employed. The occupation of the seamstress, therefore, ranks tenth in the number of women employed and fourth in the percentage which women formed of the total.

Since women formed so large a proportion of the total number of persons classified as seamstresses, the term will be used hereafter, unless otherwise specified, to designate only the adult females engaged in this occupation.

Race and nativity.—The distribution, by race and nativity, of the seamstresses in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts is shown in Table LVI.

If the race and nativity distribution of the total number of seamstresses is compared with that of the total number of women engaged in the 46 other occupations employing at least 5,000 adult female breadwinners, the occupation of the seamstresses will be found to be in a nearly median position. In the percentage of native white of native parentage it ranked twenty-second; in that of native white of foreign parentage, twenty-fifth; in that of foreign born

[1] Among them the following:

Apron makers.
Buttonhole makers.
Carpet sewers.
Fur sewers.
Necktie makers.
Shirt-waist makers.
Skirt makers.
Stitchers (overalls).
Stitchers (suspender).
Underwear makers.
Waist makers.
Window-shade stitchers.
Wrapper makers.

white, twenty-first, and in that of negroes tenth (see Table XXIII, page 34).

TABLE LVI.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Aggregate.		In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.		In smaller cities and country districts.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	138,724	100.0	72,352	100.0	66,372	100.0
Native white—both parents native	60,223	43.4	19,817	27.4	40,406	60.9
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	41,888	30.2	27,663	38.2	14,225	21.4
Foreign born white	25,050	18.1	20,302	28.1	4,748	7.2
Negro	11,296	8.1	4,432	6.1	6,864	10.3
Indian and Mongolian	267	0.2	138	0.2	129	0.2

A marked contrast, however, will be noted between the seamstresses in the large cities and those in the smaller cities and country districts. In the large cities 66.3 per cent of the seamstresses were white women of foreign birth or parentage, while in the smaller cities and country districts the corresponding percentage was only 28.6. Both the native white of native parentage and the negroes were of much greater importance among the seamstresses in the smaller cities and country districts.

The difference between the several sections of the country in respect to the race and nativity of seamstresses is shown in Table LVII, which gives the per cent distribution for main and minor geographic divisions.

The native whites of native parentage were the most numerous class among the seamstresses in all the minor geographic divisions of the country except the Southern North Atlantic, the Eastern North Central, and the Basin and Plateau, where they were slightly outnumbered by the native whites of foreign parentage. The percentage which they formed of the total number of seamstresses was, however, as a rule smaller in the North and West than in the South. In the North and West native whites of foreign parentage were of great importance, actually outnumbering those of native parentage in the three divisions mentioned above. Foreign born whites were also numerous in the Northern and Western states, especially in those which make up the North Atlantic group. The percentage for negroes was, of course, large only in the South.

TABLE LVII.—*Per cent distribution, by race and nativity, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	Number.	Per cent.[1]			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	138,724	43.4	30.2	18.1	8.3
North Atlantic division	46,312	34.2	33.2	31.1	1.5
New England	9,522	39.1	31.6	27.8	1.5
Southern North Atlantic	36,790	33.0	33.5	32.0	1.5
South Atlantic division	19,229	61.2	11.9	4.5	22.5
Northern South Atlantic	11,489	60.3	18.2	6.5	15.0
Southern South Atlantic	7,740	62.4	2.5	1.6	33.5
North Central division	49,393	41.3	40.3	16.4	2.0
Eastern North Central	32,727	39.3	41.1	17.6	1.9
Western North Central	16,666	45.3	38.6	14.1	2.1
South Central division	19,107	53.6	14.7	4.0	27.8
Eastern South Central	11,292	58.1	13.3	2.0	26.5
Western South Central	7,815	46.9	16.6	6.8	29.7
Western division	4,683	42.2	33.3	19.1	5.4
Rocky Mountain	1,104	58.6	24.3	14.1	3.0
Basin and Plateau	339	32.4	32.7	30.1	4.7
Pacific	3,240	37.6	36.5	19.7	6.3

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based see Table 24, page 194.

If the figures for the several states given in Table 24 (page 194) are considered, it will be noted that in all but 12 of the states and territories the native whites of native parentage were the most numerous class among seamstresses. In Rhode Island, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Utah, and California the most numerous class was the native white of foreign parentage; in New York and North Dakota, the foreign born white; and in the District of Columbia, Florida, and Louisiana, the negro.

The distribution of the adult female seamstresses in the 6 leading cities of the country, by race and nativity, is shown in Table LVIII. More than one-fourth of the total number of seamstresses reported by the Census were in these 6 cities.

In Philadelphia and Baltimore the native whites of native parentage were the most numerous class, but in the other cities they were outnumbered by one or both of the other white classes. In New York, which contained 11.8 per cent of the total number of adult female seamstresses in the country, more than one-half were of foreign birth and almost 9 out of 10 were of either foreign birth or foreign parentage.

TABLE LVIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR SIX LEADING CITIES: 1900.

CITY.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	All classes.	Number.				Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
New York[1]	16,310	1,629	5,514	8,921	246	10.0	33.8	54.7	1.5
Chicago	7,029	910	3,066	2,906	147	12.9	43.6	41.3	2.1
Philadelphia	3,507	1,305	1,199	883	120	37.2	34.2	25.2	3.4
St. Louis	3,905	992	2,286	516	111	25.4	58.5	13.2	2.8
Boston	2,120	505	648	929	38	23.8	30.6	43.8	1.8
Baltimore	5,079	2,566	1,595	597	321	50.5	31.4	11.8	6.3

[1] Includes Manhattan and Bronx boroughs only.

The question that naturally arises is to what extent these differences between the race and nativity classes represent differing tendencies toward entering this occupation. To answer this question, Table LIX has been prepared, which shows the percentage which seamstresses form of the total number of adult female breadwinners in each race and nativity class for cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and for smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE LIX.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SEAMSTRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	138,724	2.9	1,657,728	72,352	4.4	3,175,902	66,372	2.1
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	60,223	3.4	414,954	19,817	4.8	1,357,012	40,406	3.0
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	41,888	3.8	554,806	27,663	5.0	535,938	14,225	2.7
Foreign born white	840,011	25,050	3.0	494,044	20,302	4.1	345,967	4,748	1.4
Negro, Indian, and Mongolian	1,130,909	11,563	1.0	193,924	4,570	2.4	936,985	6,993	0.7

The occupation of seamstress, judged by the figures in Table LIX, was of nearly equal importance for the three classes of whites, but it was of considerably less importance for the negroes. In the cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants it gave employment to the largest percentage among the native whites of foreign parentage, while in the smaller cities and country districts the percentage was highest among the native whites of native parentage. For all classes the occupation was of greater importance in the large cities than in the smaller cities and country districts.

Parentage.—The importance of the occupation for the women of the different foreign nationalities is shown in Table LX, which gives the percentage of seamstresses among the female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by the nationality of their parents. If one parent was native and the other foreign born, the person is classified according to the nationality of the one who was foreign.

The occupation of seamstress was of greatest importance among the female breadwinners of Russian parentage, giving employment to 13.3 per cent of the total for that nationality. The other classes which have recently come to this country from southeastern Europe reported comparatively high percentages of seamstresses, probably because of their tendency to concentrate in large cities where industries employing seamstresses are located. The nationalities which represent the earlier periods of immigration have smaller percentages of seamstresses.

TABLE LX.—*Number and percentage of seamstresses among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Seamstresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	146,105	2.7
Native parentage	3,247,907	73,619	2.3
Native white	1,926,637	62,375	3.2
All other	1,321,270	11,244	0.9
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	72,486	3.5
Austria	25,590	1,579	6.2
Bohemia	25,719	1,275	5.0
Canada (English)	102,181	2,275	2.2
Canada (French)	78,979	1,194	1.5
Denmark	15,580	381	2.5
England and Wales	158,912	3,933	2.5
France	21,164	932	4.4
Germany	538,192	23,561	4.4
Hungary	14,631	813	5.6
Ireland	634,201	16,937	2.7
Italy	26,093	1,572	6.0
Norway	47,934	1 128	2.4
Poland	38,536	2.015	5.2
Russia	40,816	5,419	13.3
Scotland	46,173	971	2.1
Sweden	81,148	2,119	2.6
Switzerland	15,125	437	2.9
Other countries	47,689	2,244	4.7
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	3,701	3.3

Age.—The age distribution of the seamstresses 16 years of age and over is given in Table LXI.

Although in this occupation the proportion of middle aged and elderly women employed was large as compared with that in most of the other principal occupations for women (see Table XXIV, page 36), yet the age distribution of the total number of adult seamstresses was rather similar to that of the total number of adult female breadwinners. The two classes of native whites, however, were slightly older among the seamstresses than among all breadwinners, while the reverse was true of the foreign born whites (see Table 17, page 162). That the foreign born whites were younger in the occupation of seamstress reflects the extent to which young women in immigrant families are employed in sweat-shop industries.

TABLE LXI.—*Distribution, by age, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration):*[1] *1900.*

AGE.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	139,149	60,339	41,912	25,085	11,297
16 to 24 years	59,480	21,889	21,025	13,092	3,309
25 to 34 years	35,401	14,763	11,984	4,664	3,784
35 to 44 years	21,728	10,485	5,907	3,056	2,201
45 to 54 years	12,266	6,918	2,064	2,113	1,128
55 to 64 years	6,769	4,154	693	1,332	576
65 years and over	3,264	2,003	211	786	257
Age unknown	241	127	28	42	42
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	42.7	36.3	50.2	52.2	29.3
25 to 34 years	25.4	24.5	28.6	18.6	33.5
35 to 44 years	15.6	17.4	14.1	12.2	19.5
45 to 54 years	8.8	11.5	4.9	8.4	10.0
55 to 64 years	4.9	6.9	1.7	5.3	5.1
65 years and over	2.3	3.3	0.5	3.1	2.3
Age unknown	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

Perhaps these facts will be more obvious from an inspection of Table LXII, which shows the percentage of seamstresses among the female breadwinners of each race and nativity class distributed by age.

TABLE LXII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SEAMSTRESSES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Native white—						Foreign born white.			Negro.		
				Both parents native.			One or both parents foreign born.								
	Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	139,149	2.9	1,773,109	60,339	3.4	1,091,200	41,912	3.8	840,686	25,085	3.0	1,119,653	11,297	1.0
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	59,480	2.8	753,266	21,889	2.9	593,435	21,025	3.5	347,759	13,092	3.8	439,725	3,309	0.8
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	35,401	3.0	399,376	14,763	3.7	297,916	11,984	4.0	202,322	4,664	2.3	266,956	3,784	1.4
35 to 44 years	676,548	21,728	3.2	244,556	10,485	4.3	130,749	5,907	4.5	119,316	3,056	2.6	178,810	2,201	1.2
45 to 54 years	441,457	12,266	2.8	182,214	6,918	3.8	46,925	2,064	4.4	86,136	2,113	2.5	124,024	1,128	0.9
55 to 64 years	256,926	6,769	2.6	120,650	4,154	3.4	15,982	693	4.3	54,563	1,332	2.4	64,535	576	0.9
65 years and over	138,691	3,264	2.4	67,655	2,003	3.0	5,368	211	3.9	28,262	786	2.8	36,539	257	0.7
Age unknown	18,211	241	1.3	5,392	127	2.4	825	28	3.4	2,328	42	1.8	9,064	42	0.5

For all classes combined and for each class of native whites the occupation of seamstress was of greatest importance for female breadwinners in the age period 35 to 44 years. But for the foreign born whites it was of greatest importance in the youngest period, and for the negroes in that from 25 to 34. The differences between the several age periods shown by each class were, however, so slight that this is one of the striking features of the table. It shows that the occupation of seamstress was of about equal importance for female breadwinners of all ages.

The difference between the age distribution of seamstresses in the cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and the smaller cities and country districts is shown in Table LXIII.

TABLE LXIII.—*Distribution, by age, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Total.		In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.		In smaller cities and country districts.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total[1]	138,487	100.0	72,245	100.0	66,242	100.0
16 to 24 years	59,304	42.8	35,498	49.1	23,806	35.9
25 to 44 years	56,905	41.1	27,603	38.2	29,302	44.2
45 to 64 years	19,020	13.7	7,896	10.9	11,124	16.8
65 years and over	3,258	2.4	1,248	1.7	2,010	3.0

[1] Not including age unknown.

The seamstresses in the large cities were considerably younger than those in the smaller cities and country districts. In the large cities 49.1 per cent, or almost one-half, of the total number were from 16 to 24 years of age, while in the smaller cities and country districts only 35.9 per cent were within these ages. This difference was probably due largely to the fact that most of the immigrants and the children of immigrants employed in this occupation were found in the large cities.

The age distribution of seamstresses in the 5 cities in which the largest numbers were employed is given in Table LXIV.

In New York city, where the proportion of foreign born whites among seamstresses was highest, 63.3 per cent of the total number of women engaged in this occupation were between the ages of 16 and 24. The percentage in this age period was also relatively high in Chicago and St. Louis, where the native whites of foreign parentage were numerous. In Philadelphia and Baltimore, on the other hand, cities in which a larger proportion of seamstresses were native whites of native parentage, the percentages formed by young women were the lowest.

TABLE LXIV.—*Distribution, by age, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, for five selected cities: 1900.*

AGE.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	New York, N. Y.[1]	Chicago, Ill.	Baltimore, Md.	St. Louis, Mo.	Philadelphia, Pa.
	NUMBER.				
Total[2]	16,285	7,012	5,072	3,899	3,504
16 to 24 years	10,307	3,803	2,423	2,043	1,216
25 to 44 years	4,426	2,684	1,922	1,497	1,522
45 to 64 years	1,329	475	621	321	630
65 years and over	223	50	106	38	136
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total[2]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	63.3	54.2	47.8	52.4	34.7
25 to 44 years	27.2	38.3	37.9	38.4	43.4
45 to 64 years	8.2	6.8	12.2	8.2	18.0
65 years and over	1.4	0.7	2.1	1.0	3.9

[1] Includes Manhattan and Bronx boroughs only.
[2] Not including age unknown.

Marital condition.—A subject closely allied to age is that of marital condition, for where the proportion of young women is small the proportion of single women is apt to be correspondingly small. In Table LXV the adult female seamstresses are classified by race, nativity, and marital condition.

TABLE LXV.—*Distribution,[1] by marital condition, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white.		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	139,149	60,339	41,912	25,085	11,297
Single (including unknown)	96,773	38,204	35,103	18,951	4,342
Married	15,967	7,557	2,291	1,929	3,864
Widowed	24,133	13,140	4,051	3,976	2,893
Divorced	2,276	1,378	467	229	198
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single (including unknown)	69.6	63.4	83.7	75.5	38.4
Married	11.5	12.5	5.5	7.7	34.2
Widowed	17.3	21.8	9.7	15.9	25.6
Divorced	1.6	2.3	1.1	0.9	1.8

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.

Although the occupation of the seamstress ranked comparatively high among the principal occupations for women in the proportion of the total number who were widowed and divorced (see Table XXV, page 38), yet the distribution of the seamstresses by marital condition corresponded rather closely with that

of the total number of female breadwinners. This would naturally be expected, since the age distribution of the two was rather similar.

Some variations in the marital condition of the seamstresses of the several race and nativity classes will be noted, but these are to be explained principally by the differences in age distribution. The large number of married women among the negroes, however, is a racial characteristic reflecting the tendency for the married women of this race to be engaged in gainful occupations.

Comparison with census of 1890.—A subject of particular interest in the study of any occupation of women is that of the changes which have taken place between recent censuses. In Table LXVI the distribution by race and nativity of the seamstresses 15 years of age and over is shown for 1890 and 1900.

TABLE LXVI.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of seamstresses 15 years of age and over, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	SEAMSTRESSES 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	143,270	100.0	143,339	100.0	[2] 69	([3])
Native white—both parents native	61,517	42.9	69,806	48.7	[2] 8,289	[2] 11.9
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	43,622	30.4	40,761	28.4	2,861	7.0
Foreign born white	26,236	18.3	21,000	14.7	5,236	24.9
Negro	11,374	7.9	11,681	8.1	[2] 307	[2] 2.6
Indian and Mongolian	521	0.4	91	0.1	430	([4])

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Decrease.
[3] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[4] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

During the decade from 1890 to 1900 the number of seamstresses decreased by 69. This decrease was confined, however, to the negroes and to the native whites of native parentage. The native whites of foreign parentage increased 7 per cent and the foreign born whites 24.9 per cent, and as a result the proportion which these classes formed of the total number of seamstresses materially increased.

These changes naturally affected the importance of the occupation for the several classes, as is indicated in Table LXVII, which shows for each race and nativity class the percentage that seamstresses formed of the total number of female breadwinners 15 years of age and over in 1890 and 1900.

TABLE LXVII.—*Number and percentage of seamstresses among female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Seamstresses.		Total.	Seamstresses.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,007,0[illegible]	143,270	2.9	3,712,144	143,339	3.9
Native white—both parents native	1,825,850	61,517	3.4	1,310,148	69,806	5.3
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,138,129	43,622	3.8	774,751	40,761	5.3
Foreign born white	861,963	26,236	3.0	756,006	21,000	2.8
Negro	1,162,250	11,374	1.0	867,717	11,681	1.3

[1] For area of enumeration.

The occupation of seamstress was of increased importance only among the foreign born white. For other classes the percentage which seamstresses formed of the total number of female breadwinners was smaller in 1900 than in 1890.

The changes which have taken place during the decade in the age distribution of the seamstresses in each race and nativity class are shown in Table LXVIII.

In all classes of the population except the foreign born white the women employed as seamstresses in 1900 were older than those engaged in that occupation in 1890. In fact, in all classes except the foreign born white the number of seamstresses between 15 and 24 years of age was actually smaller in 1900 than in 1890. Among the native white of native parentage the decrease in number was common to all age groups, but among the other classes the general tendency was toward an increase in the older age periods. The increase of 56.8 per cent among the foreign born white seamstresses 15 to 24 was exceptional, indicating probably the extent to which the young women from eastern Europe were entering the occupation. The marked increase among the native white of foreign parentage in the age groups from 35 to 64 years probably reflects the increase in this class which occurred at an earlier period.[1]

[1] See page 52.

TABLE LXVIII.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of seamstresses 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	SEAMSTRESSES 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.					
Total	143,270	100.0	143,339	100.0	[2] 69	(3)
15 to 24 years	63,601	44.4	66,174	46.2	[2] 2,573	[2] 3.9
25 to 34 years	35,401	24.7	35,770	25.0	369	1.0
35 to 44 years	21,728	15.2	19,187	13.4	2,541	13.2
45 to 54 years	12,266	8.6	11,814	8.2	452	3.8
55 to 64 years	6,769	4.7	6,498	4.5	271	4.2
65 years and over	3,264	2.3	3,507	2.4	[2] 243	[2] 6.9
Age unknown	241	0.2	389	0.3	[2] 148	[2] 38.0
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	61,517	100.0	69,806	100.0	[2] 8,289	[2] 11.9
15 to 24 years	23,067	37.5	26,820	38.4	[2] 3,753	[2] 14.0
25 to 34 years	14,763	24.0	17,471	25.0	[2] 2,708	[2] 15.5
35 to 44 years	10,485	17.0	11,082	15.9	[2] 597	[2] 5.4
45 to 54 years	6,918	11.2	7,530	10.8	[2] 612	[2] 8.1
55 to 64 years	4,154	6.8	4,290	6.1	[2] 136	[2] 3.2
65 years and over	2,003	3.3	2,371	3.4	[2] 368	[2] 15.5
Age unknown	127	0.2	242	0.3	[2] 115	[2] 47.5
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	43,622	100.0	40,761	100.0	2,861	7.0
15 to 24 years	22,735	52.1	25,909	63.6	[2] 3,174	[2] 12.3
25 to 34 years	11,984	27.5	10,450	25.6	1,534	14.7
35 to 44 years	5,907	13.5	2,924	7.2	2,983	102.0
45 to 54 years	2,064	4.7	916	2.2	1,148	125.3
55 to 64 years	693	1.6	341	0.8	352	103.2
65 years and over	211	0.5	175	0.4	36	20.6
Age unknown	28	0.1	46	0.1	[2] 18	(4)
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	26,236	100.0	21,000	100.0	5,236	24.9
15 to 24 years	14,243	54.3	9,084	43.3	5,159	56.8
25 to 34 years	4,664	17.8	4,535	21.6	129	2.8
35 to 44 years	3,056	11.6	3,129	14.9	[2] 73	[2] 2.3
45 to 54 years	2,113	8.1	2,225	10.6	[2] 112	[2] 5.0
55 to 64 years	1,332	5.1	1,327	6.3	5	0.4
65 years and over	786	3.0	665	3.2	121	18.2
Age unknown	42	0.2	35	0.2	7	(4)
	NEGRO.					
Total	11,374	100.0	11,681	100.0	[2] 307	[2] 2.6
15 to 24 years	3,386	29.8	4,330	37.1	[2] 944	[2] 21.8
25 to 34 years	3,784	33.3	3,293	28.2	491	14.9
35 to 44 years	2,201	19.4	2,031	17.4	170	8.4
45 to 54 years	1,128	9.9	1,134	9.7	[2] 6	[2] 0.5
55 to 64 years	576	5.1	537	4.6	39	7.3
65 years and over	257	2.3	296	2.5	[2] 39	[2] 13.2
Age unknown	42	0.4	60	0.5	[2] 18	(4)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Decrease.
[3] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[4] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The difference between the increase in the several main and minor divisions is presented in Table LXIX for seamstresses at least 10 years of age.

TABLE LXIX.—*Increase in the number of seamstresses 10 years of age and over, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	SEAMSTRESSES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	146,105	146,043	62	(1)
North Atlantic division	49,443	47,450	1,993	4.2
New England	9,737	10,557	[2] 820	[2] 7.8
Southern North Atlantic	39,706	36,893	2,813	7.6
South Atlantic division	20,085	24,335	[2] 4,250	[2] 17.5
Northern South Atlantic	12,169	13,198	[2] 1,029	[2] 7.8
Southern South Atlantic	7,916	11,137	[2] 3,221	[2] 28.9
North Central division	52,119	46,947	5,172	11.0
Eastern North Central	34,701	31,820	2,881	9.1
Western North Central	17,418	15,127	2,291	15.1
South Central division	19,688	22,796	[2] 3,108	[2] 13.6
Eastern South Central	11,700	13,080	[2] 1,380	[2] 10.6
Western South Central	7,988	9,716	[2] 1,728	[2] 17.8
Western division	4,770	4,515	255	5.6
Rocky Mountain	1,125	1,287	[2] 162	[2] 12.6
Basin and Plateau	344	458	[2] 114	[2] 24.9
Pacific	3,301	2,770	531	19.2

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. [2] Decrease.

The number of seamstresses at least 10 years of age increased by 62, or less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. Marked decreases were apparent in some sections, especially in the South. These decreases were practically counterbalanced by increases in the Southern North Atlantic states and in the two groups of the North Central division.

Family relationship.—To determine the position of the seamstresses in the families in which they lived a special tabulation has been made for 26 selected cities. The seamstresses who lived in these cities are shown in Table LXX, classified by race, nativity, and marital condition.

TABLE LXX.—*Seamstresses 16 years of age and over, classified by race, nativity, and marital condition, for twenty-six selected cities:*[1] *1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	56,495	13,366	22,147	17,969	3,012
Single (including unknown)	43,764	9,282	18,921	14,248	1,313
Married	4,250	1,238	994	1,112	905
Widowed and divorced	8,481	2,846	2,232	2,609	794

[1] Includes all cities in the list given in Table XLIV, page 56, except Fall River, Massachusetts.

The per cent distribution, by relationship to the family, of each of the groups of seamstresses shown in the above table is given in Table LXXI.

TABLE LXXI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-six selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	72.7	86.9	79.6	81.2
Heads of families	14.1	17.3	10.4	14.4	24.0
With father	34.8	25.4	40.8	38.1	13.5
With mother	15.9	13.3	22.4	10.7	11.5
With other relative	16.1	16.7	13.2	16.4	32.2
Boarding[2]	19.1	27.3	13.1	20.4	18.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	71.9	87.1	79.1	75.2
Heads of families	4.6	5.6	3.9	4.4	9.3
With father	43.4	34.4	46.3	47.0	26.7
With mother	19.0	17.0	24.5	12.7	21.0
With other relative	13.9	14.9	12.3	15.0	18.3
Boarding[2]	19.1	28.1	12.9	20.9	24.8
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.1	75.4	84.3	83.1	87.8
Heads of families	20.1	21.9	23.9	21.7	11.4
With father	7.0	6.7	11.4	6.2	3.8
With mother	5.5	5.4	10.9	2.5	3.4
With other relative	49.5	41.4	38.1	52.7	69.3
Boarding[2]	17.9	24.6	15.7	16.9	12.2
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.2	74.1	85.7	81.0	83.5
Heads of families	59.9	53.5	59.5	66.3	62.8
With father	4.4	4.0	7.3	2.9	2.9
With mother	5.5	4.9	9.5	2.8	4.8
With other relative	10.4	11.7	9.4	9.0	13.0
Boarding[2]	19.8	25.9	14.3	19.0	16.5

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

The distribution of the total number of seamstresses by relationship to the family in which they live will be found to correspond very closely to a similar distribution of all the female breadwinners for whom the special tabulation was made if the servants and waitresses are excluded from the total (see Table XIX, page 27). The figures for the several race, nativity, and marital classes, however, present one marked peculiarity—the single foreign born whites showed a higher percentage living with the father than any other class. This peculiarity probably results from the comparatively large number of young people in this class among seamstresses.

Other breadwinners in the family.—The actual number of seamstresses in the 26 selected cities, classified by race, nativity, marital condition, and number of other breadwinners in the family are shown in Table 27 (page 208). The per cent distribution by number of other breadwinners is given in Table LXXII.

TABLE LXXII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of seamstresses 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-six selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF SEAMSTRESSES 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	72.7	86.9	79.6	81.2
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	10.5	12.3	9.3	9.9	14.6
One other	22.9	23.0	22.2	22.4	30.6
Two other	21.0	18.8	23.0	20.6	17.7
More than two other	26.6	18.6	32.4	26.8	18.3
Boarding[2]	19.1	27.3	13.1	20.4	18.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	71.9	87.1	79.1	75.2
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	6.0	6.9	6.3	4.8	8.8
One other	20.6	20.5	20.9	20.2	20.3
Two other	22.9	21.4	24.0	22.4	20.6
More than two other	31.4	23.1	35.8	31.6	25.0
Boarding[2]	19.1	28.1	12.9	20.9	24.8
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.1	75.4	84.3	83.1	87.8
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	13.6	14.7	17.4	14.4	6.7
One other	39.9	35.7	33.9	41.2	50.5
Two other	16.2	14.8	17.3	16.5	16.4
More than two other	12.5	10.2	15.7	11.0	14.3
Boarding[2]	17.9	24.6	15.7	16.9	12.2
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.2	74.1	85.7	81.0	83.5
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	31.8	28.9	31.0	35.3	33.2
One other	26.3	25.9	27.3	26.3	24.8
Two other	13.5	11.8	16.7	12.3	14.6
More than two other	8.5	7.5	10.8	7.1	10.8
Boarding[2]	19.8	25.9	14.3	19.0	16.5

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Of the 56,495 seamstresses included in this tabulation, only 5,919, or 10.5 per cent, were the sole breadwinners of the families in which they lived, while

39,783, or 70.5 per cent were living in families which contained other breadwinners. Among the single women comparatively high percentages will be noted in the class having more than two other breadwinners, especially among the native whites of foreign parentage and the foreign born whites. This class probably consist mostly of young women living in large families. Among the married the largest percentages were in the class with one other breadwinner, who in most cases was probably the husband. The largest proportion—31.8 per cent—of the widowed and divorced seamstresses were living in families in which there were no other breadwinners, and thus presumably were supporting themselves and perhaps had other persons dependent upon them.

DRESSMAKERS.

At the Twelfth Census 338,144 women 16 years of age and over in continental United States were reported as dressmakers. They formed 97.5 per cent of the total number of persons—men, women, and children—engaged in that occupation.

Of the other occupations which furnished employment to at least 5,000 women, two—that of servant and waitress and that of agricultural laborer—contained a larger number than the occupation of dressmaker; but in none was the percentage of the total formed by women higher. The occupation of dressmaker, therefore, ranked third in the actual number of women employed and first in the proportion which women formed of the total number of persons engaged in the occupation.

Geographic distribution.—While dressmaking is an occupation which is generally represented in all sections of the United States and in smaller towns and country districts as well as in large cities, the geographic distribution of the dressmakers differs considerably from that of the total adult female population, as is evident from the following tabular statement:

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER: 1900.	
	Total.	Dressmakers.
Continental United States	100.0	100.0
North Atlantic	30.7	44.1
South Atlantic	13.1	8.2
North Central	34.5	35.6
South Central	16.8	6.2
Western	4.9	5.9

Dressmakers are concentrated in the Northern and the Western divisions of the country to a greater extent than the total adult female population. This condition, of course, indicates that the demand for dressmakers is greater in the North and the West than in the South, which is a natural result of the differences in the composition and wealth of the population in the two sections.

Race and nativity.—The distribution, by race and nativity, of the women engaged in this important occupation in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts is shown in Table LXXIII.

TABLE LXXIII.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.					
	Aggregate.		In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.		In smaller cities and country districts.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	338,144	100.0	149,296	100.0	188,848	100.0
Native white—both parents native	152,821	45.2	42,716	28.6	110,105	58.3
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	117,287	34.7	61,156	41.0	56,131	29.7
Foreign born white	55,523	16.4	38,200	25.6	17,323	9.2
Negro	12,418	3.7	7,195	4.8	5,223	2.8
Indian and Mongolian	95	(1)	29	(1)	66	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

When the race and nativity distribution of the total number of dressmakers shown in the above table is compared with that given in Table XXIII (page 34), for the women engaged in each of the other occupations employing at least 5,000 adult female breadwinners, the occupation of dressmaker, like that of seamstress, will be found to occupy a median position. In the percentage of native white of native parentage it ranked twentieth; in that of native white of foreign parentage, twenty-second; in that of foreign born white, twenty-third; and in that of colored, fifteenth.

There is a marked difference between the large cities and the smaller cities and country districts as regards the distribution of the dressmakers by race and nativity. In the smaller cities and country districts 58.3 per cent of the dressmakers were native white women of native parentage and only 38.9 per cent were white women of either foreign birth or parentage; but in the large cities the corresponding percentage was only 28.6 for native whites of native parentage, while it was 66.6 for the whites of foreign birth or parentage.

The importance of the occupation among working women of the different race and nativity classes is shown by Table LXXIV.

TABLE LXXIV.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF DRESSMAKERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Dressmakers.		Total.	Dressmakers.		Total.	Dressmakers.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	338,144	7.0	1,657,728	149,296	9.0	3,175,902	188,848	5.9
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	152,821	8.6	414,954	42,716	10.3	1,357,012	110,105	8.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	117,287	10.8	554,806	61,156	11.0	535,938	56,131	10.5
Foreign born white	840,011	55,523	6.6	494,044	38,200	7.7	345,967	17,323	5.0
Negro	1,119,621	12,418	1.1	193,317	7,195	3.7	926,304	5,223	0.6
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	95	0.8	607	29	4.8	10,681	66	0.6

It appears from Table LXXIV that both in the large cities and in the smaller cities and country districts the native white working women of foreign parentage have engaged in the occupation of dressmaking to a greater extent in proportion to their numbers than the working women in any other race and nativity class. Thus, although more native white women of native than of foreign parentage are employed in this occupation, the latter class in proportion to its working strength outranks the former.

Parentage.—Table LXXV presents comparative figures for each of the principal nationalities making up the foreign element in this occupation. The table includes all females 10 years of age and over, since the data for women alone are not available.

TABLE LXXV.—*Number and percentage of dressmakers among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Dressmakers.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	344,794	6.5
Native parentage	3,247,907	166,533	5.1
Native white	1,926,637	154,425	8.0
All other	1,321,270	12,108	0.9
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	178,261	8.6
Austria	25,590	1,534	6.0
Bohemia	25,719	1,675	6.5
Canada (English)	102,181	9,015	8.8
Canada (French)	78,979	5,096	6.4
Denmark	15,580	1,542	9.9
England and Wales	158,912	14,805	9.3
France	21,164	2,697	12.7
Germany	538,192	49,504	9.2
Hungary	14,631	584	4.0
Ireland	634,201	54,474	8.6
Italy	26,093	2,507	9.6
Norway	47,934	4,073	8.5
Poland	38,536	1,831	4.8
Russia	40,816	3,014	7.4
Scotland	46,173	3,893	8.4
Sweden	81,148	5,903	7.3
Switzerland	15,125	1,373	9.1
Other countries	47,689	3,276	6.9
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	11,465	10.2

As would be expected, dressmaking is most important for working women of French parentage, 12.7 per cent of whom were engaged in that occupation. Among most of the other European nationalities also the percentage of female breadwinners who were dressmakers is considerably higher than the corresponding percentage for the native white of native parentage. The marked tendency of the women of these nationalities to enter the occupation may probably be attributed to the fact that dressmaking has for years been considered an important part of the public school training of girls in many countries on the continent of Europe, and is therefore naturally followed by the emigrants from these countries and by their children.

Age.—Statistics showing the distribution by age periods of the dressmakers of the several race and nativity classes are presented in Table LXXVI for the entire area of enumeration.[1]

In the case of dressmaking, as with most of the other leading occupations for women, over one-half of those employed were under 35 years of age. The proportion in the youngest age group, however, is comparatively small. Of the 47 leading occupations for women, there are 33 with a larger percentage of young women (see Table XXIV, page 36). In the percentage of older women the rank of this occupation is much higher, ranging from eighth in the age periods 25 to 34 years and 35 to 44 years to twentieth for the age period 65 years and over. Most of the occupations with a greater concentration in the group 25 to 34 years are pursuits requiring considerable preparatory study and training. The fact that dressmaking can be pursued at home by women whose household duties do not permit them to participate in shop or factory work is of significance in this connection.

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE LXXVI.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	NUMBER.				
Total	338,290	152,866	117,314	55,566	12,421
16 to 24 years	110,355	40,717	47,701	18,473	3,428
25 to 34 years	103,421	43,551	39,881	15,466	4,478
35 to 44 years	70,719	35,188	21,674	11,140	2,688
45 to 54 years	34,548	20,618	6,109	6,568	1,246
55 to 64 years	14,170	9,362	1,519	2,889	396
65 years and over	4,625	3,143	368	966	148
Age unknown	452	287	62	64	37
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	32.6	26.6	40.7	33.2	27.6
25 to 34 years	30.6	28.5	34.0	27.8	36.1
35 to 44 years	20.9	23.0	18.5	20.0	21.6
45 to 54 years	10.2	13.5	5.2	11.8	10.0
55 to 64 years	4.2	6.1	1.3	5.2	3.2
65 years and over	1.4	2.1	0.3	1.7	1.2
Age unknown	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3

The proportion of native white dressmakers of foreign parentage in the two youngest age periods is relatively large—a natural result of the fact that the number of persons of advanced years is comparatively small in that class of the population, and the further fact that the number of young women who are breadwinners in the families of immigrants is relatively large. While the white women of foreign birth or parentage reported as dressmakers are most numerous in the age period 16 to 24 years, the maximum number of native white women of native parentage and of negro women in this occupation is found in the next older period.

That, in comparison with other occupations, dressmaking is not so much a young woman's occupation as an occupation for women in middle life is further indicated by Table LXXVII, which shows the proportion of dressmakers among all female breadwinners for the various age periods.

TABLE LXXVII.—*Number and percentage of dressmakers among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Dressmakers.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	338,290	7.0
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	110,355	5.2
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	103,421	8.8
35 to 44 years	676,548	70,719	10.5
45 to 54 years	441,457	34,548	7.8
55 to 64 years	256,926	14,170	5.5
65 years and over	138,691	4,625	3.3
Age unknown	18,211	452	2.5

As an occupation for women, dressmaking reaches its greatest importance in the age period 35 to 44 years. While more than one-tenth of all the female breadwinners in this age group were dressmakers, only one-twentieth of those 16 to 24 years of age were employed in this trade.

Marital condition.—Statistics relating to the marital condition of dressmakers in the several race and nativity classes are presented in Table LXXVIII.

TABLE LXXVIII.—*Distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	NUMBER.				
Total	338,290	152,866	117,314	55,566	12,421
Single[2]	231,859	91,942	97,245	37,522	5,090
Married	49,253	27,573	9,021	8,234	4,366
Widowed	51,057	29,320	9,837	9,162	2,723
Divorced	6,121	4,031	1,211	658	218
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single[2]	68.5	60.1	82.9	67.5	41.0
Married	14.6	18.0	7.7	14.8	35.3
Widowed	15.1	19.2	8.4	16.5	21.9
Divorced	1.8	2.6	1.0	1.2	1.8

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

From Table LXXVIII it will be seen that 68.5 per cent of the women employed as dressmakers, or about 7 in every 10, were single. The large proportion of single women in this occupation is striking in view of the fact that dressmaking is one of the few occupations which can, as a rule, be pursued after marriage as well as before, and which is in many cases the resource of married women who are compelled to rely upon their own efforts for the support of their families. It is significant, however, that 30 of the 47 leading occupations for women had a larger percentage of single women, while only 16 had a larger percentage of married women (see Table XXV, page 38); and it is interesting to note that the proportion of single women among dressmakers was practically the same as that for seamstresses, a kindred occupation.

Comparison with the census of 1890.—Statistics for dressmakers 15 years of age or over at the censuses of 1890 and 1900 are presented in comparative form in Tables LXXIX and LXXX.

It will be seen that the two censuses show little difference in the distribution by race and nativity of women in this occupation, the greatest change being a relative increase of 1 per cent in the proportion that negroes constituted of the total. There was also

relatively little difference in the percentages of increase for the white nativity classes. The negroes, however, showed the large gain of 65.4 per cent, although the actual increase for them was smaller than that for any of the white classes.

TABLE LXXIX.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over, employed as dressmakers, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	342,579	100.0	290,308	100.0	52,271	18.0
Native white—both parents native	153,912	44.9	129,768	44.7	24,144	18.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	119,685	34.9	103,056	35.5	16,629	16.1
Foreign born white	56,381	16.5	49,846	17.2	6,535	13.1
Negro	12,478	3.6	7,543	2.6	4,935	65.4
Indian and Mongolian	123	(2)	95	(2)	28	(3)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

TABLE LXXX.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	342,579	100.0	290,308	100.0	52,271	18.0
15 to 24 years	114,644	33.5	130,175	44.8	[2]15,531	[2]11.9
25 to 34 years	103,421	30.2	87,236	30.0	16,185	18.6
35 to 44 years	70,719	20.6	41,318	14.2	29,401	71.2
45 to 54 years	34,548	10.1	20,820	7.2	13,728	65.9
55 to 64 years	14,170	4.1	7,907	2.7	6,263	79.2
65 years and over	4,625	1.4	2,204	0.8	2,421	109.8
Age unknown	452	0.1	648	0.2	[2]196	[2]30.2

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease.

The group 15 to 24 years shows a marked falling off both in the actual number and in the proportion of the total, although it still remained the largest, while the group 35 to 44 years shows marked increases, and the succeeding age groups also show gains. The group 25 to 34 years shows practically the same proportions. The marked increase in the average age of dressmakers is due probably to the increasing importance of business and commercial occupations for women, since young women who formerly might have taken up dressmaking as a pursuit now enter these occupations in increasingly larger numbers.

Reference to Table 16 (page 161) will show that there has been a relative falling off in the importance of the occupation for women, the decrease amounting to 1 per cent. The chief falling off was shown for the two classes of native whites, the decrease amounting to but one-tenth of 1 per cent for the foreign whites, and the occupation increasing slightly in importance for the negroes.

Family relationship.—For the purpose of obtaining further information concerning the economic condition of women dressmakers, special tabulations have been made for this class of breadwinners in 27 selected cities, and are presented in Tables LXXXI and LXXXII. The dressmakers included in these special tabulations are classified by race and nativity and marital condition in the following tabular statement:

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS IN 27 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	111,969	28,482	46,926	31,550	5,006
Single (including unknown)	82,112	18,056	39,769	22,138	2,146
Married	12,101	3,824	2,620	3,909	1,747
Widowed and divorced	17,756	6,602	4,537	5,503	1,113

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

Although the 111,969 dressmakers in these cities constituted a little less than one-third of the total number 16 years of age and over in continental United States, the statistics presented for them are doubtless representative of the conditions prevailing in the country at large, or at any rate in urban communities.

Table LXXXI shows the relationship of the dressmakers in the selected cities to the families in which they lived.

The table shows that 82.7 per cent of the dressmakers in the selected cities were heads of families or were living with parents or other relatives, while 17.3 per cent were boarding. The proportion of boarders was highest among the single—18 per cent—and lowest among the married—13.3 per cent.

When the proportions for the several race and nativity classes are compared, marked differences are apparent. Among the native white dressmakers of native parentage 25.3 per cent were boarding, as compared with 19.7 per cent of the foreign born white and 10.4 per cent of the native white of foreign parentage. These differences are due largely to the fact that many native white women of native parentage who are gainfully employed have migrated from homes in the country districts to the cities, while the majority of those of foreign parentage are already living with their parents or other relatives in the large urban communities.

TABLE LXXXI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.7	74.7	89.6	80.3	79.5
Heads of families	18.1	22.2	12.2	22.5	22.0
With father	29.8	21.1	40.7	24.0	14.3
With mother	14.8	11.1	21.0	9.8	9.9
With other relative	20.0	20.3	15.7	23.9	33.4
Boarding[2]	17.3	25.3	10.4	19.7	20.5
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.0	72.1	89.8	77.0	72.7
Heads of families	8.2	9.4	6.0	11.0	11.0
With father	38.8	30.7	46.5	32.8	26.7
With mother	18.6	15.2	23.4	12.9	18.3
With other relative	16.3	16.8	13.9	20.2	16.7
Boarding[2]	18.0	27.9	10.2	23.0	27.3
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	86.7	82.6	88.7	89.6	86.5
Heads of families	17.1	18.9	19.1	17.3	10.0
With father	6.3	6.2	9.9	4.5	5.3
With mother	3.6	3.4	6.1	2.2	3.6
With other relative	59.6	54.1	53.6	65.5	67.7
Boarding[2]	13.3	17.4	11.3	10.4	13.5
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	83.3	77.5	87.9	86.8	81.7
Heads of families	64.4	59.2	62.7	72.7	62.0
With father	4.3	3.4	7.7	2.5	4.3
With mother	4.8	4.5	8.4	2.6	3.6
With other relative	9.7	10.4	9.1	9.1	11.8
Boarding[2]	16.7	22.5	12.1	13.2	18.3

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Of much interest in the present discussion are statistics showing the number of other breadwinners in families in which there was at least one adult female employed as a dressmaker. Such data are presented in Table LXXXII.

TABLE LXXXII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as dressmakers, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS DRESSMAKERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.7	74.7	89.6	80.3	79.5
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	12.6	15.1	9.9	14.0	14.3
One other	25.9	26.3	24.0	27.1	32.8
Two other	20.4	17.7	23.6	18.6	17.6
More than two other	23.9	15.7	32.0	20.6	14.9
Boarding[2]	17.3	25.3	10.4	19.7	20.5
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.0	72.1	89.8	77.0	72.7
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	8.2	9.5	7.0	9.1	10.4
One other	22.6	22.9	22.4	22.9	22.6
Two other	22.3	19.9	24.9	20.0	19.5
More than two other	28.9	19.8	35.6	25.0	20.2
Boarding[2]	18.0	27.9	10.2	23.0	27.3
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	86.7	82.6	88.7	89.6	86.5
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	11.0	11.8	13.4	10.4	6.8
One other	46.6	42.8	43.3	51.0	49.9
Two other	17.1	17.2	17.9	16.2	17.5
More than two other	12.1	10.7	14.2	12.0	12.4
Boarding[2]	13.3	17.4	11.3	10.4	13.5
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	83.3	77.5	87.9	86.8	81.7
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	34.0	32.4	33.9	36.1	33.6
One other	26.5	25.9	27.0	27.2	25.5
Two other	13.9	12.0	15.7	14.6	14.0
More than two other	8.9	7.3	11.4	8.9	8.5
Boarding[2]	16.7	22.5	12.1	13.2	18.3

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

A considerable proportion of the women employed as dressmakers—12.6 per cent—were apparently the sole support of the families in which they lived; but a very much larger proportion—about 70 per cent—were living in families in which there were other breadwinners,

and almost one-fourth of the total number—23.9 per cent—were living in families in which there were at least three other breadwinners. The variations in the per cent distribution for the different classes distinguished in the above table are similar to those shown and discussed in connection with other occupations.

MILLINERS.

At the census of 1900 there were 82,936 women reported as milliners in continental United States, and the occupation was fourteenth in rank among the pursuits in which women are engaged as breadwinners. Millinery is preeminently a woman's occupation, 94.4 per cent of all the milliners being women. Only two occupations had a larger proportion of women—that of dressmaker, with 97.5 per cent, and that of housekeeper and stewardess, with 94.7 per cent. These three occupations and that of seamstress, with 91.9 per cent, were the only ones in which women constituted over nine-tenths of all persons employed.

The number of men, women, boys, and girls employed as milliners in continental United States in 1900 is shown in Table LXXXIII.

TABLE LXXXIII.—*Distribution, by sex and age, of milliners 10 years of age and over, for continental United States: 1900.*

SEX AND AGE.	MILLINERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	87,859	100.0
Males	1,739	2.0
16 years and over	1,696	1.9
10 to 15 years	43	0.1
Females	86,120	98.0
16 years and over	82,936	94.4
10 to 15 years	3,184	3.6

In addition to the women engaged as milliners, 3,184 girls from 10 to 15 years of age were so employed. Thus the total number of female milliners was 86,120, or 98 per cent of all the milliners. The percentage of females among milliners was even greater in 1890, being 99.4. Although the number of male milliners was small at each census, it was over four times as great in 1900 as in 1890.

Since the men and children employed as milliners form such a small proportion of those engaged in the occupation, in this discussion, unless otherwise stated, the term "milliners" will be used to mean women milliners.

Geographic distribution.—The demand for millinery depends largely upon the number of women in a community, although the race composition of the population, the general economic conditions, and other characteristics have an influence on the demand. The distribution of all women and of milliners by geographic divisions is given in Table LXXXIV, which shows also the number of milliners per 10,000 women and the number of women to each milliner for each of the divisions.

TABLE LXXXIV.—*Proportion of milliners among women 16 years of age and over and number of women to each milliner, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			Number of women 16 years of age and over to each milliner.
	Total.	Milliners.		
		Number.	Per 10,000.	
Continental United States	23,485,559	82,936	35	283
North Atlantic division	7,218,443	32,098	44	226
New England	2,016,845	9,123	45	221
Southern North Atlantic	5,201,598	22,885	44	227
South Atlantic division	3,086,268	5,169	17	597
Northern South Atlantic	1,383,461	3,319	24	417
Southern South Atlantic	1,702,807	1,850	11	920
North Central division	8,097,861	35,870	44	226
Eastern North Central	5,075,415	22,958	45	221
Western North Central	3,022,446	12,912	43	234
South Central division	3,935,399	5,619	14	700
Eastern South Central	2,179,641	3,074	14	709
Western South Central	1,755,758	2,545	14	690
Western division	1,147,588	4,270	37	269
Rocky Mountain	325,048	974	30	334
Basin and Plateau	117,296	351	30	334
Pacific	705,244	2,945	42	239

In a general way the distribution of milliners follows the distribution of the female population 16 years of age and over, the rank of the main geographic divisions being the same for milliners and for all women. There was, however, more or less concentration of the milliners in certain sections of the country. The concentration was mainly in the North Central and the North Atlantic divisions, the former furnishing 43.3 per cent of the milliners and only 34.5 per cent of the total number of women, and the latter reporting 38.6 per cent of the milliners and 30.7 per cent of the women. Two minor divisions in these divisions—the Eastern North Central and the Southern North Atlantic—had over one-half of the total number of milliners—27.7 per cent and 27.6 per cent, respectively. The corresponding proportions for the total number of women were 21.6 per cent and 22.1 per cent (see Table 25, page 197).

The influence of the large proportion of negroes in the Southern states and their generally poor economic condition is reflected in the relatively small proportion of milliners to the total number of women 16 years of age and over. The South Central division had only 14 milliners to 10,000 women and the South Atlantic division only 17, while the proportion for the whole of continental United States was 35 to 10,000, or more than twice that for either of these divisions. The two Northern divisions were supplied equally well with milliners, each having 44 to 10,000 women. The Western division also was above the average in this respect.

The relative importance of this occupation in the

various sections of the country is shown again by the fact that, while in continental United States as a whole there were on an average 283 women to each milliner, the average was only 226 for the North Atlantic and North Central divisions and 269 for the Western division, while it was as high as 597 for the South Atlantic and 700 for the South Central.

Race and nativity.—The per cent distribution of milliners, by race and nativity, is shown in Table LXXXV for the geographic divisions.

TABLE LXXXV.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS: PER CENT—			
	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
	Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	54.5	34.7	10.6	0.2
North Atlantic division	46.8	38.7	14.4	0.1
New England	49.5	35.9	14.5	0.2
Southern North Atlantic	45.8	39.8	14.3	0.1
South Atlantic division	79.6	16.7	3.3	0.4
Northern South Atlantic	75.2	20.8	3.7	0.3
Southern South Atlantic	87.6	9.2	2.5	0.7
North Central division	54.7	36.0	9.2	0.1
Eastern North Central	52.6	37.7	9.5	0.2
Western North Central	58.4	32.8	8.7	(2)
South Central division	78.4	17.1	3.5	1.0
Eastern South Central	78.0	18.5	2.6	0.9
Western South Central	78.9	15.5	4.5	1.1
Western division	48.3	38.4	13.1	0.3
Rocky Mountain	56.6	30.5	12.6	0.3
Basin and Plateau	33.3	46.2	20.5	.....
Pacific	47.3	40.1	12.4	0.3

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 194.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Almost nine-tenths of the women employed as milliners were native white. More than one-half were native white of native parentage and more than one-third were native white of foreign parentage. The foreign born whites formed 10.6 per cent of the total number and the colored, only two-tenths of 1 per cent. The colored consisted of 169 negroes and 4 Indians, there being no Chinese and no Japanese. In comparison with the other principal occupations in which women are engaged, millinery ranked fourteenth in the proportion of native whites of native parentage and twenty-second in the proportion of those of foreign parentage (see Table XXIII, page 34).

The proportion of native whites was as high as 96.3 per cent for the South Atlantic division and 95.5 for the South Central, while for the North Atlantic division it was only 85.5 per cent and for the Western, only 86.7 per cent. In the Southern divisions more than three-fourths of the milliners were native white of native parentage. The proportions of those of foreign extraction—native white of foreign parentage and foreign born white—were greatest in the North Atlantic and the Western divisions.

Importance as an occupation for women.—The relative importance of the milliner's occupation for women engaged in gainful pursuits is indicated in Table LXXXVI.

TABLE LXXXVI.—*Number and percentage of milliners among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Milliners.	
		Number.	Per cent.
	AGGREGATE.		
All classes	4,833,630	82,936	1.7
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	45,186	2.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	28,748	2.6
Foreign born white	840,011	8,829	1.1
Negro	1,119,621	169	(1)
Indian	11,288	4	(1)
	IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS.		
All classes	1,657,728	31,510	1.9
Native white—both parents native	414,954	11,136	2.7
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	554,896	14,824	2.7
Foreign born white	494,044	5,461	1.1
Negro	193,317	89	(1)
Indian	607	.....	.....
	IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS.		
All classes	3,175,902	51,426	1.6
Native white—both parents native	1,357,012	34,050	2.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	535,938	13,924	2.6
Foreign born white	345,967	3,368	1.0
Negro	926,304	80	(1)
Indian	10,681	4	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Milliners formed 1.7 per cent of the total number of women gainfully employed in continental United States. The proportion of milliners in the large cities—1.9 per cent—was a little greater and the proportion in the smaller cities and country districts—1.6 per cent—slightly less. Thus it is evident that there was some concentration of the milliners in the larger cities, although the contrast is not nearly so marked for this occupation as it is for most occupations. It is interesting to note that among the leading occupations for women, millinery ranked twenty-ninth in the proportion living in the large cities (see Table 23, page 178).

The greater importance of this occupation in the large cities is perhaps more effectively shown when the distribution between the large and the small communities of the women employed as milliners is compared

with the corresponding distribution of the general female population over 15 years of age. While the large cities contained a little less than one-fourth of the total number of women, they reported almost two-fifths of the milliners. In the large cities there were 54 milliners to 10,000 women, while in the less populous districts there were only 29. In other words, there were 186 women to each milliner in the large cities and 343 in the more nearly rural districts.

Parentage.—Further consideration of the importance of millinery among occupations for women is given in Table LXXXVII, which shows the percentage of milliners among all female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents.

TABLE LXXXVII.—*Number and percentage of milliners among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Milliners.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	86,120	1.6
Native parentage	3,247,907	46,418	1.4
Native white	1,926,637	46,245	2.4
All other	1,321,270	173	(1)
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	39,702	1.9
Austria	25,590	448	1.7
Bohemia	25,719	240	0.9
Canada (English)	102,181	2,500	2.5
Canada (French)	78,979	1,152	1.5
Denmark	15,580	254	1.6
England and Wales	158,912	3,892	2.4
France	21,164	568	2.7
Germany	538,192	12,240	2.3
Hungary	14,631	202	1.4
Ireland	634,201	9,942	1.6
Italy	26,093	191	0.7
Norway	47,934	748	1.6
Poland	38,536	368	1.0
Russia	40,816	1,054	2.6
Scotland	46,173	996	2.2
Sweden	81,148	952	1.2
Switzerland	15,125	308	2.0
Other countries	47,689	574	1.2
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	3,073	2.7

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Among the milliners of foreign parentage those with parents born in Germany ranked first in numbers and those of Irish parentage were second.

The proportion of milliners among female breadwinners was highest—2.7 per cent—for those with parents born in France. The other foreign countries leading in this respect were Russia, Canada (English), England and Wales, Germany, Scotland, and Switzerland.

Age.—The age composition of the total number of milliners and of the three classes of white milliners in the entire area of enumeration[1] is shown in Table LXXXVIII.

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE LXXXVIII.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.	
	NUMBER.			
Total	82,958	45,193	28,752	8,840
16 to 24 years	40,964	20,928	15,834	4,120
25 to 34 years	23,070	12,694	8,293	2,031
35 to 44 years	10,778	6,245	3,277	1,230
45 to 54 years	4,971	3,115	959	893
55 to 64 years	2,267	1,559	302	402
65 years and over	727	505	65	152
Age unknown	181	147	22	12
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	49.4	46.3	55.1	46.6
25 to 34 years	27.8	28.1	28.8	23.0
35 to 44 years	13.0	13.8	11.4	13.9
45 to 54 years	6.0	6.9	3.3	10.1
55 to 64 years	2.7	3.4	1.1	4.5
65 years and over	0.9	1.1	0.2	1.7
Age unknown	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1

In this occupation, as in most other pursuits in which women are engaged, the younger women predominate. In 1900 the percentage of women from 16 to 34 years of age was somewhat greater, however, for milliners than for all women gainfully employed, the percentages being 77.2 and 68.4, respectively. Almost one-half, 49.4 per cent, of the milliners were from 16 to 24 years of age, while the corresponding proportion for the total number of gainfully employed women was only 44.2 per cent. Still, there are a number of the leading occupations for women in which the percentage of young women in 1900 was greater than it was among milliners. But while there were 25 having a larger percentage in the age period 16 to 24 years, there were only 13 with a larger percentage in the next older age period, 25 to 34 years, thus indicating a concentration in the latter period greater than existed in most occupations in which women are numerous (see Table XXIV, page 36).

The highest proportion in the youngest age period is shown for the native whites of foreign parentage. This may result from the general tendency among foreigners to allow their children to begin working at an early age. It should be noted, however, that in the general population the native whites whose parents were immigrants comprise a larger proportion of young women than either the foreign born or the native born of native American parents. This condition is reflected in the percentages shown in Table LXXXIX,

which gives, for the entire area of enumeration, the proportions for the various classes of white milliners in each age period.

TABLE LXXXIX.—*Per cent distribution, by race and nativity, of white women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	WHITE WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS: PER CENT—		
	Native white—		Foreign born white.
	Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.	
Total	54.5	34.7	10.7
16 to 24 years	51.1	38.7	10.1
25 to 34 years	55.0	35.9	8.8
35 to 44 years	57.9	30.4	11.4
45 to 54 years	62.7	19.3	18.0
55 to 64 years	68.8	13.3	17.7
65 years and over	69.5	8.9	20.9
Age unknown	81.2	12.2	6.6

With each older age group the proportion for native whites of foreign parentage decreases and that for native whites of native parentage increases.

The relative importance of milliners of the various age groups among all female breadwinners of corresponding age is shown in Table XC.

TABLE XC.—*Number and percentage of milliners among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Milliners.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	82,958	1.7
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	40,964	1.9
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	23,070	2.0
35 to 44 years	676,548	10,778	1.6
45 to 54 years	441,457	4,971	1.1
55 to 64 years	256,926	2,267	0.9
65 years and over	138,691	727	0.5
Age unknown	18,211	181	1.0

The proportion of milliners among female breadwinners was greatest for the age group 25 to 34 years, and next greatest for the group 16 to 24 years. The percentages for these two groups were the only ones that were greater than the percentage for all milliners.

The relative importance of the milliners from 16 to 24 years of age among all milliners in the large and the small communities is shown in the following tabular statement:

AREA.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.		
	Total.	16 to 24 years.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	82,936	40,956	49.4
Cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants	31,510	18,282	58.0
Smaller cities and country districts	51,426	22,674	44.1

In the large cities more than one-half of the milliners were under 25 years of age. The fact that the proportion of young milliners was much greater in large cities than in the less populous sections is probably indicative of the more rapid growth of this occupation in cities and of the greater prominence in the cities of native whites of foreign parentage, who, as has been shown by previous tables, are as a class younger than the native whites of native parentage. Moreover, the larger millinery establishments are generally located in the large cities, and it is probable that in a large establishment there would be a greater percentage of young women than would be found in the same number of milliners distributed in small establishments.

Marital condition.—Table XCI shows the distribution by marital condition of milliners in each of the principal race and nativity classes.

TABLE XCI.—*Distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	82,958	45,193	28,752	8,840	169
Single[2]	65,112	33,448	25,139	6,424	101
Married	10,453	6,919	2,101	1,388	42
Widowed	6,343	4,065	1,304	950	24
Divorced	1,050	761	208	78	2
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single[2]	78.5	74.0	87.4	72.7	59.8
Married	12.6	15.3	7.3	15.7	24.8
Widowed	7.6	9.0	4.6	10.7	14.2
Divorced	1.3	1.7	0.7	0.9	1.2

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

Single women predominated decidedly in this occupation, forming more than three-fourths of all the milliners. The married milliners ranked next, with about one-eighth of the total number. The proportion of single milliners was largest in the case of the whites of native birth and foreign parentage.

Comparison with census of 1890.—Table XCII shows, by race and nativity, the number and the per cent distribution of the women 15 years of age and over who were employed as milliners in 1890 and in 1900. It gives also the number and the percentage of the increase in 1900 as compared with 1890.

TABLE XCII.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as milliners, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	85,025	100.0	60,653	100.0	24,372	40.2
Native white—both parents native	45,943	54.0	34,855	57.5	11,088	31.8
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	29,718	35.0	18,194	30.0	11,524	63.3
Foreign born white	9,187	10.8	7,240	11.9	1,947	26.9
Negro	173	0.2	359	0.6	[2] 186	[2] 51.8
Indian	4	(3)	5	(3)	[2] 1	(4)

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease. [3] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. [4] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The number of milliners at least 15 years of age increased 40.2 per cent in 1900 as compared with 1890. This rate is considerably greater than the rate of increase for the total number of women of the same age, 23.7 per cent, and greater also than the rate for all women breadwinners, 34.6 per cent. In 1890 there was 1 milliner to every 323 women 15 years of age and over; in 1900, 1 to every 285. This change not improbably reflects the advance in the prosperity of the country, since millinery is to a certain extent a luxury, and probably in the family budget forms an item of expenditure that responds quickly to fluctuations in income.

The greatest increase, numerically and relatively, is shown for the native whites of foreign parentage, this increase being somewhat less than two-thirds. For the native whites of native parentage the percentage of increase was only about one-half as great. The foreign born whites increased a little over one-fourth, while the small number of negro milliners decreased about one-half.

The large relative increase in the native whites of foreign parentage was naturally accompanied by an increase in the proportion which they formed of the total number of milliners. Even with a decreased proportion the native whites of native parentage constituted over one-half of the total in 1900.

The changes in the age composition of the milliners at least 15 years of age are shown in Table XCIII, which presents the figures reported at the censuses of 1890 and 1900.

TABLE XCIII.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as milliners, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	85,025	100.0	60,653	100.0	24,372	40.2
15 to 24 years	43,031	50.6	27,830	45.9	15,201	54.6
25 to 34 years	23,070	27.1	16,348	27.0	6,722	41.1
35 to 44 years	10,778	12.7	8,367	13.8	2,411	28.8
45 to 54 years	4,971	5.8	5,070	8.4	[2] 99	[2] 2.0
55 to 64 years	2,267	2.7	2,037	3.4	230	11.3
65 years and over	727	0.9	813	1.3	[2] 86	[2] 10.6
Age unknown	181	0.2	188	0.3	[2] 7	[2] 3.7

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease.

The employment of young women in this occupation has greatly increased. The number of milliners 15 to 24 years of age increased 54.6 per cent and constituted 50.6 per cent of the total number in 1900, as compared with 45.9 per cent in 1890. It is natural that the increase should be most marked among the younger women, since it is not customary for older women to undertake to learn a new occupation, especially one like millinery for which a term of apprenticeship is generally necessary.

The increase between 1890 and 1900 in the number of milliners 10 years of age and over is shown by geographic divisions in Table XCIV.

TABLE XCIV.—*Increase in the number of females 10 years of age and over employed as milliners, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	86,120	61,291	24,829	40.5
North Atlantic	33,671	23,095	10,576	45.8
South Atlantic	5,298	4,429	869	19.6
North Central	37,038	25,193	11,845	47.0
South Central	5,752	5,267	485	9.2
Western	4,361	3,307	1,054	31.9

The largest increases are shown for the North Central and the North Atlantic divisions, and these divisions, moreover, are the only ones with a percentage of increase greater than the average. The percentage of increase for the South Central division was only 9.2.

Family relationship.—The consideration of the relationship of milliners to the heads of the families in which they were living is of interest, and special tabulations of such statistics have been made for the milliners in 27 selected cities. Table XCV shows the number of milliners in these cities, and their distribution by marital condition, race, and nativity.

TABLE XCV.—*Women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities:*[1] *1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	23,453	7,464	11,396	4,526	67
Single (including unknown)	20,453	6,301	10,447	3,658	47
Married	1,458	534	457	453	14
Widowed and divorced	1,542	629	492	415	6

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

Of the 23,453 milliners in the selected cities over one-half were native white of foreign parentage, and all except 3,000 were single women.

The distribution, by family relationship, of the milliners in the selected cities is shown in Table XCVI.

On an average 1 milliner out of every 7 living in the 27 selected cities was boarding. This proportion is small in comparison with the proportion—1 in 5—of boarders among all women breadwinners exclusive of servants and waitresses in these cities (see Table XIX, page 27). The number of milliners who were heads of families was also relatively small, being about 1 in 15, as compared with 1 in 7 for all the women, except servants and waitresses, engaged in gainful pursuits. Since these proportions were small, the number of milliners living at home with father, mother, or other relative was comparatively large, forming 79 per cent. About two-thirds, 64 per cent, of all the milliners in these cities were living at home with their parents—46 per cent with their fathers and 18 per cent with their mothers.

In the case of milliners, as in the case of all women following breadwinning pursuits in the selected cities, except servants and waitresses, relatively more boarders belonged to the class of native white of native parentage than to any other class. This condition reflects the greater cityward migration of the children of native parents. When foreigners come to this country they generally locate in the larger cities, and they and their children reside together there. This is probably one explanation of the fact that the proportion of those living at home was greatest for the native whites of foreign parentage.

The proportions of those boarding and of those returned as heads of families were greatest in the case of the widowed and divorced. This is not surprising, for one would expect the greatest proportions of the other classes to be living at home—the single with their parents and the married with their husbands.

TABLE XCVI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.	
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	85.8	78.0	91.4	84.6
Heads of families	6.8	6.7	5.3	10.0
With father	46.0	41.0	51.3	41.1
With mother	18.0	15.2	21.9	12.9
With other relative	15.0	15.1	13.0	19.7
Boarding[2]	14.2	22.0	8.6	15.4
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	86.8	79.7	91.9	84.5
Heads of families	3.4	3.4	3.0	4.8
With father	51.4	46.9	54.9	49.5
With mother	19.7	16.8	22.9	15.4
With other relative	12.2	12.6	11.2	14.7
Boarding[2]	13.2	20.3	8.1	15.5
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.7	73.4	88.8	87.4
Heads of families	10.5	9.0	10.1	12.6
With father	8.9	9.4	11.8	5.7
With mother	5.6	5.2	8.8	2.4
With other relative	57.7	49.8	58.2	66.7
Boarding[2]	17.3	26.6	11.2	12.6
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	75.7	65.0	83.5	82.4
Heads of families	48.4	37.8	49.8	62.4
With father	8.6	8.7	11.0	5.3
With mother	8.0	7.8	12.8	2.7
With other relative	10.8	10.7	10.0	12.0
Boarding[2]	24.3	35.0	16.5	17.6

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Some idea of the extent to which the women in this occupation are dependent upon their own earnings for the support of themselves or their families may be obtained from the per cent distribution according to number of other breadwinners in the family, as shown in Table XCVII.

TABLE XCVII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as milliners, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS MILLINERS.			
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	85.8	78.0	91.4	84.6
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	7.1	7.6	6.3	8.0
One other	24.9	26.7	23.6	25.3
Two other	24.2	22.8	25.6	23.0
More than two other	29.6	21.0	35.9	28.3
Boarding[2]	14.2	22.0	8.6	15.4
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	86.8	79.7	91.9	84.5
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	5.4	5.7	5.1	5.6
One other	23.5	25.8	22.7	22.0
Two other	25.7	25.1	26.3	24.8
More than two other	32.2	23.1	37.8	32.0
Boarding[2]	13.2	20.3	8.1	15.5
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.7	73.4	88.8	87.4
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	8.0	6.9	7.9	9.1
One other	44.9	40.3	45.5	49.0
Two other	15.0	13.5	17.9	13.9
More than two other	15.0	12.7	17.5	15.5
Boarding[2]	17.3	26.6	11.2	12.6
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	75.7	65.0	83.5	82.4
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	28.1	26.6	29.9	28.0
One other	24.8	23.7	23.4	28.0
Two other	13.2	7.6	17.3	17.1
More than two other	9.7	7.2	13.0	9.4
Boarding[2]	24.3	35.0	10.5	17.6

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

The proportion of milliners who were apparently the sole support of the families in which they were living was small, being 7.1 per cent, or about 1 in 14. The proportion who were boarding and were therefore apparently dependent upon their own earnings was twice as great, while the number living in families with other breadwinners formed 78.7 per cent of the total.

The native whites of foreign parentage had the smallest proportion of milliners in families with no other breadwinners and the largest proportion in families having three or more others gainfully employed—a condition that is not surprising when it is remembered that there is a tendency among the foreigners who come to this country to let as many of their children as possible become breadwinners in order to add to the earnings of the family.

When the marital classes are considered it is seen that the single, as would be expected, had the smallest proportion in families with no other breadwinners and the largest in families with more than two others engaged in gainful occupations. Almost one-half of the married women employed as milliners were living in families in which there was only one other breadwinner, and it is probable that in many cases this one was the husband. Over one-half of the widowed and divorced were either the sole support of the families in which they lived or were living in families having only one other breadwinner.

TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.

At the Twelfth Census of the United States the number of women at least 16 years of age reported as textile mill operatives was 231,458. The importance of the several branches of the textile industry in contributing to this number is shown in the following tabular statement, which distributes the adult female operatives according to the class of mills in which they worked:

CLASS.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	231,458	100.0
Cotton mill operatives	97,181	42.0
Hosiery and knitting mill operatives	28,293	12.2
Woolen mill operatives	27,169	11.7
Silk mill operatives	26,432	11.4
Carpet factory operatives	8,332	3.6
Other textile mill operatives	44,051	19.0

The cotton mills furnished employment to a greater number of women than any other branch of the textile industry. Women engaged in the cotton mills were, in fact, more than three times as numerous as those employed in the hosiery and knitting mills, which in this respect ranked second. The woolen and the silk mills employed almost as many women as the hosiery and knitting mills, but the carpet factories employed a far smaller number, only 3.6 per cent of the total.

Importance as an occupation for women.—When the number of adult female operatives in all branches of the textile industry is compared with the number of women engaged in other occupations, the textile mill operatives will be found to rank seventh, being outnumbered by the servants and waitresses, the agricultural

laborers, the dressmakers, the laundresses, the teachers, and the farmers and planters. None of these occupations which furnished employment to larger numbers represents a factory industry. The occupation of the textile mill operative, therefore, was the leading factory occupation in the number of women employed.

The importance of women in this occupation is shown in the following tabular statement in which the total number of textile mill operatives are classified as males and females, children, and adults:

	TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.
Total	545,158	266,815	278,343
Adults 16 years of age and over	463,154	231,696	231,458
Children 10 to 15 years	82,004	35,119	46,885

Of the 545,158 textile mill operatives shown in this tabular statement, 231,458, or 42.5 per cent, were women 16 years of age and over. No less than 16 other occupations had a higher percentage of women than this, but most of them were, from their very nature, occupations which were peculiarly adapted for women. Of the manufacturing and mechanical pursuits, 7 reported a higher percentage of adult women. These 7 are shown in the following tabular statement, which gives the percentages that men, women, and children formed of the total number engaged in each:[1]

OCCUPATION.	PERSONS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE ENGAGED IN SPECIFIED OCCUPATIONS, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.				
	Per cent men.	Per cent women.	Per cent children 10 to 15 years of age.		
			Total.	Boys.	Girls.
Dressmakers	0.6	97.5	1.9	(1)	1.9
Milliners	1.9	94.4	3.7	0.1	3.6
Seamstresses	3.0	91.9	5.1	0.2	4.9
Shirt, collar, and cuff makers	20.3	70.5	9.2	1.2	8.0
Boxmakers (paper)	15.5	68.7	15.8	2.5	13.3
Glovemakers	34.8	58.4	6.8	1.9	4.9
Bookbinders	46.3	47.2	6.5	2.1	4.4
Textile mill operatives	42.5	42.5	15.0	6.4	8.6

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Of the manufacturing and mechanical pursuits in which women were relatively more important than among the textile mill operatives, only 3 were conducted almost exclusively in factories or large shops. These 3 included the shirt, collar, and cuff makers, the paper box makers, and the bookbinders. If, then, the comparison is confined to occupations conducted exclusively in factories or large shops, it is found that the occupation of the textile mill operative ranked first in the actual number of women employed and fourth in the percentage which women formed of the total.

Race and nativity.—The classes of the population from which the women engaged in this important factory occupation came are shown in Table XCVIII, which distributes the female textile mill operatives 16 years of age and over by race and nativity.

TABLE XCVIII.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as textile mill operatives, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	231,458	100.0
Native white—both parents native	74,617	32.2
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	77,521	33.5
Foreign born white	78,833	34.1
Negro	481	0.2
Indian	6	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

In the group of female textile mill operatives, as shown in this table, the native white of native parentage, the native white of foreign parentage, and the foreign born white were represented in almost equal numbers. This approach to equality is the result of the localization of the textile industries in two distinct sections of the country—the North Atlantic division and the Southern South Atlantic. In the North Atlantic division the female textile mill operatives belong principally to the population of foreign birth or parentage. In the Southern South Atlantic, where the foreign element is numerically unimportant in the general population, the mill workers are recruited almost entirely from the native white element of native parentage. The contrast is clearly indicated in Table XCIX, in which the female textile mill operatives at least 16 years of age are distributed by race and nativity, for states in which they numbered at least 1,000.

The 14 Northern and Western states which appear in Table XCIX as having at least 1,000 female textile mill operatives, include the 9 states which compose the North Atlantic division. These 9 states contained 184,490, or 79.7 per cent, of the total number of female textile mill operatives, a larger percentage than they contained of the total number of women engaged in most of the other leading occupations for women (see Table 25, page 197). The 8 Southern states shown in the table include all the states of the Southern South Atlantic division except Florida, in which there was but 1 adult female textile mill operative. This minor geographic division contained 22,429, or 9.7 per cent, of the total number of women employed in the textile mills.

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Twelfth Census, Occupations, Table XLVII.

TABLE XCIX.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, FOR LEADING STATES: 1900.

STATE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.								
	All classes.	Number.				Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro and Indian.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro and Indian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	231,458	74,617	77,521	78,833	487	32.2	33.5	34.1	0.2
Northern and Western states	196,423	41,798	75,937	78,604	84	21.3	38.7	40.0	(1)
Maine	7,907	2,097	1,511	4,299	.....	26.5	19.1	54.4	.....
New Hampshire	12,116	1,724	2,850	7,540	2	14.2	23.5	62.2	(1)
Vermont	1,282	449	514	319	.....	35.0	40.1	24.9	.....
Massachusetts	60,695	4,581	21,063	35,031	20	7.5	34.7	57.7	(1)
Rhode Island	15,941	1,860	6,489	7,585	7	11.7	40.7	47.6	(1)
Connecticut	11,787	1,782	5,360	4,638	7	15.1	45.5	39.3	0.1
New York	24,061	7,202	11,491	5,356	12	29.9	47.8	22.3	(1)
New Jersey	15,073	2,753	6,207	6,109	4	18.3	41.2	40.5	(1)
Pennsylvania	35,628	15,125	15,216	5,277	10	42.5	42.7	14.8	(1)
Ohio	1,951	803	741	401	6	41.2	38.0	20.6	0.3
Indiana	2,097	1,121	807	165	4	53.5	38.5	7.9	0.2
Illinois	1,542	360	735	444	3	23.3	47.7	28.8	0.2
Michigan	1,841	770	744	324	3	41.8	40.4	17.6	0.2
Wisconsin	2,230	235	1,382	613	.....	10.5	62.0	27.5	.....
All other	2,272	936	827	503	6	41.2	36.4	22.1	0.3
Southern states	35,035	32,819	1,584	229	403	93.7	4.5	0.7	1.2
Maryland	2,311	2,047	237	26	1	88.6	10.3	1.1	(1)
Virginia	1,744	1,668	31	15	30	95.6	1.8	0.9	1.7
North Carolina	9,607	9,506	33	10	58	98.9	0.3	0.1	0.6
South Carolina	6,975	6,831	49	22	73	97.9	0.7	0.3	1.0
Georgia	5,846	5,661	44	8	133	96.8	0.8	0.1	2.3
Kentucky	1,235	690	490	45	10	55.9	39.7	3.6	0.8
Tennessee	1,622	1,507	47	6	62	92.9	2.9	0.4	3.8
Alabama	2,880	2,842	18	1	19	98.7	0.6	(1)	0.7
All other	2,815	2,067	635	96	17	73.4	22.6	3.4	0.6

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

In the Northern and Western group of states the foreign element, including white women of either foreign birth or foreign parentage, constituted 78.7 per cent of the total number of women employed in the occupation. In the South this class of women formed only 5.2 per cent of the total, while the native white of native parentage formed 93.7 per cent.

These figures reflect the concentration of the two classes of population in the different sections rather than any marked tendency on the part of either class to become textile mill operatives. In the North, where women of foreign birth or parentage predominate in the mill towns, the proportion of this class of women in the occupation is large, while in the South, where the native white of native parentage are in the majority, this class is most largely represented among textile mill operatives.

It is probable, therefore, that more satisfactory conclusions as to the relative tendency of the nativity classes to enter the occupation can be reached by comparing the number of women employed as textile mill operatives with the number of the same race and nativity class in the total population. This comparison, reduced to a percentage basis, is shown in Table c.

In the North and West, as shown in Table c, the textile mills were most important as a source of employment for white women of either foreign birth or parentage. The percentages of textile mill operatives among the women of these classes were particularly large in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, and Connecticut.

In the Southern states, on the other hand, the textile mills were of greatest importance for white women of native parentage, this being particularly noticeable in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, which were the leading Southern states in the industry.

In the North and West, as is also indicated in Table c, the industry furnished employment to a higher percentage of the total number of women than it did in the South. In Rhode Island 1 woman in 10 was a textile mill operative and in Massachusetts 1 in 17; but in North Carolina and South Carolina the corresponding ratios were only about 1 in 50 or 60. The percentage of native white women of native parentage employed in the textile mills is, however, not as large in the North as it is in the South.

TABLE C.—*Percentage of textile mill operatives in the female population 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for leading states: 1900.*

STATE.	PERCENTAGE OF TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES IN THE FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
Continental United States	1.0	0.6	1.8	1.8	(1)
Northern and Western states.	1.2	0.5	1.9	1.9	(1)
Maine	3.2	1.2	6.0	10.8	.....
New Hampshire	8.1	1.9	15.8	19.7	0.7
Vermont	1.1	0.6	2.3	1.7	.....
Massachusetts	5.9	1.2	9.2	8.7	0.2
Rhode Island	10.4	3.5	18.1	12.3	0.2
Connecticut	3.7	1.3	7.3	4.4	0.1
New York	0.9	0.8	1.7	0.6	(1)
New Jersey	2.4	1.0	4.2	3.2	(1)
Pennsylvania	1.8	1.3	3.8	1.3	(1)
Ohio	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	(1)
Indiana	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.3	(1)
Illinois	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	(1)
Michigan	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	(1)
Wisconsin	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	.....
All other	0.1	(1)	0.1	0.1	(1)
Southern states	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.1	(1)
Maryland	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.1	(1)
Virginia	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	(1)
North Carolina	1.8	2.6	1.3	0.6	(1)
South Carolina	1.9	4.4	1.2	1.0	(1)
Georgia	0.9	1.7	0.5	0.2	(1)
Kentucky	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.2	(1)
Tennessee	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	(1)
Alabama	0.6	1.1	0.2	(1)	(1)
All other	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The importance of the occupation as a source of employment for working women is indicated in Table CI, which shows the proportion of the female breadwinners of each race and nativity class employed in textile mills.

It appears from the table that in the Northern and Western states the occupation is nearly three times as important as an employment for women breadwinners of all classes as it is in the Southern states. For the native white of native parentage its importance is nearly twice as great in the latter states as in the former, while for the two other classes of white women this occupation is of importance only in the Northern states. These variations are of course due largely to the fact that in the North this occupation is pursued chiefly by those of foreign descent, and in the South by the native white of native parentage. The occupation is nowhere important for the negroes.

In several of the states shown in this table the proportion of female breadwinners employed as textile mill operatives is strikingly high. In New Hampshire, for instance, more than one-half of the foreign born white women gainfully employed were in the textile mills, and in Rhode Island and in Maine, two-fifths. Rhode Island led in the importance of the occupation for the native white of foreign parentage, the proportion being about the same as that for the foreign born. This is the only Northern state, moreover, in which more than 10 per cent of the total number of native white women of native parentage gainfully employed were textile mill operatives. As would be expected, however, the proportion of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners of this nativity class was highest in the Southern states, the highest percentage—21.6 per cent—being shown for South Carolina.

TABLE CI.—*Percentage of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for leading states: 1900.*

STATE.	PERCENTAGE OF TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
Continental United States	4.8	4.2	7.1	9.4	(1)
Northern and Western states.	6.1	3.3	7.4	9.7	0.1
Maine	15.8	6.6	21.0	40.3	.....
New Hampshire	30.4	9.1	39.4	55.9	1.3
Vermont	5.9	3.4	9.2	10.5	.....
Massachusetts	19.1	5.3	22.1	26.8	0.4
Rhode Island	33.1	16.1	40.1	40.8	0.4
Connecticut	14.0	6.9	18.6	17.6	0.2
New York	3.8	4.0	5.3	2.5	(1)
New Jersey	10.6	6.1	14.1	15.0	(1)
Pennsylvania	9.0	7.5	14.7	7.9	(1)
Ohio	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.1
Indiana	1.9	1.5	3.4	2.4	0.1
Illinois	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.6	(1)
Michigan	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.0	0.1
Wisconsin	2.1	1.0	2.4	2.5	.....
All other	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	(1)
Southern states	2.2	0.5	2.5	0.7	(1)
Maryland	2.5	5.7	1.7	0.3	(1)
Virginia	1.5	4.2	2.0	1.6	(1)
North Carolina	7.5	17.0	7.5	4.4	0.1
South Carolina	4.9	21.6	6.3	6.2	0.1
Georgia	3.2	12.9	2.9	1.3	0.1
Kentucky	1.3	1.4	4.0	1.5	(1)
Tennessee	1.6	3.6	2.0	0.7	0.1
Alabama	1.8	7.9	1.4	0.2	(1)
All other	0.5	1.2	2.3	0.5	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Parentage.—In order to show the importance of the occupation to the different nativity classes in more detail than has heretofore been attempted, Table CII is presented.

TABLE CII.—*Number and percentage of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Textile mill operatives— Number.	Textile mill operatives— Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	278,343	5.2
Native parentage	3,247,907	99,183	3.1
Native white	1,926,637	98,596	5.1
All other	1,321,270	587	(1)
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	179,160	8.6
Austria	25,590	1,583	6.2
Bohemia	25,719	445	1.7
Canada (English)	102,181	5,071	5.0
Canada (French)	78,979	41,444	52.5
Denmark	15,580	268	1.7
England and Wales	158,912	18,647	11.7
France	21,164	851	4.0
Germany	538,192	21,791	4.0
Hungary	14,631	1,350	9.2
Ireland	634,201	58,817	9.3
Italy	26,093	2,316	8.9
Norway	47,934	250	0.5
Poland	38,536	5,793	15.0
Russia	40,816	968	2.4
Scotland	46,173	4,693	10.2
Sweden	81,148	2,037	2.5
Switzerland	15,125	875	5.8
Other countries	47,689	3,750	7.9
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	8,211	7.3

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Of the persons in the several classes of foreign parentage, the occupation of textile mill operatives is of greatest importance for the French Canadians, Poles, English, and Scotch. The large proportion of French Canadian breadwinners—more than three times as great as that shown for any of the other classes—is indicative of the fact that the immigrants from French Canada and their children are found mainly in the towns of New England, where the textile mills are an important source of employment for the lower grades of workers. They form the largest foreign class in the occupation with the exception of the Irish; but neither of these classes is as important numerically as the native whites of native parents.

Age.—The age distribution of the female textile mill operatives 16 years of age and over is presented for each race and nativity class in Table CIII.

TABLE CIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.									
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	231,458	100.0	74,617	100.0	77,521	100.0	78,833	100.0	481	100.0
16 to 24 years	146,126	63.1	51,514	69.0	50,126	64.7	44,231	56.1	252	52.4
25 to 34 years	51,236	22.1	12,884	17.3	19,204	24.8	19,058	24.2	90	18.7
35 to 44 years	21,560	9.3	5,645	7.6	6,408	8.3	9,455	12.0	51	10.6
45 to 54 years	8,363	3.6	2,749	3.7	1,470	1.9	4,105	5.2	37	7.7
55 to 64 years	2,849	1.2	1,187	1.6	220	0.3	1,420	1.8	22	4.6
65 years and over	967	0.4	484	0.6	54	0.1	406	0.5	23	4.8
Age unknown	357	0.2	154	0.2	39	0.1	158	0.2	6	1.2

Young women predominate among female textile mill operatives, those from 16 to 24 years of age forming 63.1 per cent, or more than three-fifths of the total number of women so employed. Of the other occupations employing more than 5,000 women, only 7 show a higher percentage of young women (see Table XXIV, page 36). Of the separate occupations included under the general classification of textile mill operatives, 2 show a higher percentage of young women than does the group as a whole—silk mill operatives, with 72.3 per cent, and hosiery and knitting mill operatives, with 70 per cent—and these two pursuits rank second and fifth, respectively, among all occupations in the proportion of women 16 to 24 years of age.

The white female textile mill operatives of native birth and parentage were somewhat younger on the whole than those of native birth and foreign parentage, and considerably younger than those of foreign birth. It is probable that this difference reflects the recent rapid development of textile manufactures in the South, where the great majority of the adult female operatives have been recruited from among the young white women of native parentage.

The age distribution of the female textile mill operatives in the leading states is given in Table CIV.

In the Northern states the female textile mill operatives are considerably older than in the Southern states, since the proportion in the age group 16 to 24 years was but 61.7 per cent in the North and West, as compared with 72.1 per cent in the South. Even wider differences are shown for individual states. In Massachusetts, the leading Northern state in the industry, where the number of white women of native parentage employed as textile mill operatives is relatively small, the proportion of women under 25 years of age is but 57.1 per cent, as compared with 77.1 per cent for North Carolina, the leading Southern state.

TABLE CIV.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, FOR LEADING STATES: 1900.

STATE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.								
	Total.[1]	Number.				Per cent.			
		16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 64 years.	65 years and over.	16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 64 years.	65 years and over.
Continental United States	231,101	146,126	72,796	11,212	967	63.2	31.5	4.9	0.4
Northern and Western states	196,152	120,945	64,520	9,827	860	61.7	32.9	5.0	0.4
Maine	7,002	4,462	2,857	551	32	56.5	36.2	7.0	0.4
New Hampshire	12,088	6,510	4,714	814	50	53.9	39.0	6.7	0.4
Vermont	1,281	716	469	89	7	55.9	36.6	6.9	0.5
Massachusetts	60,623	34,610	22,616	3,241	156	57.1	37.3	5.3	0.3
Rhode Island	15,911	9,465	5,594	821	31	59.5	35.2	5.2	0.2
Connecticut	11,706	7,313	3,836	524	33	62.5	32.8	4.5	0.3
New York	24,046	14,699	7,996	1,248	103	61.1	33.3	5.2	0.4
New Jersey	15,068	9,987	4,471	572	38	66.3	29.7	3.8	0.3
Pennsylvania	35,607	25,072	9,383	1,053	99	70.4	26.4	3.0	0.3
Ohio	1,950	1,267	432	189	62	65.0	22.2	9.7	3.2
Indiana	2,097	1,429	526	111	31	68.1	25.1	5.3	1.5
Illinois	1,541	1,064	312	131	34	69.0	20.2	8.5	2.2
Michigan	1,838	1,271	428	104	35	69.2	23.3	5.7	1.9
Wisconsin	2,229	1,775	346	72	36	79.6	15.5	3.2	1.6
All other	2,265	1,305	540	307	113	57.6	23.8	13.6	5.0
Southern states	34,949	25,181	8,276	1,385	107	72.1	23.7	4.0	0.3
Maryland	2,304	1,536	636	120	12	66.7	27.6	5.2	0.5
Virginia	1,740	1,154	428	139	19	66.3	24.6	8.0	1.1
North Carolina	9,594	7,401	1,915	263	15	77.1	20.0	2.7	0.2
South Carolina	6,969	5,271	1,498	195	5	75.6	21.5	2.8	0.1
Georgia	5,825	3,854	1,627	334	10	66.2	27.9	5.7	0.2
Kentucky	1,235	789	358	67	21	63.9	29.0	5.4	1.7
Tennessee	1,613	1,128	409	69	7	69.9	25.4	4.3	0.4
Alabama	2,857	2,094	675	85	3	73.3	23.6	3.0	0.1
All other	2,812	1,954	730	113	15	69.5	26.0	4.0	0.5

[1] Not including age unknown.

The importance of this occupation among female breadwinners in the different age groups is shown in Table CV.

TABLE CV.—*Number and percentage of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Textile mill operatives.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,833,630	231,458	4.8
16 to 24 years	2,136,445	146,126	6.8
25 to 34 years	1,168,342	51,236	4.4
35 to 44 years	675,032	21,560	3.2
45 to 54 years	440,825	8,303	1.9
55 to 64 years	256,705	2,849	1.1
65 years and over	138,587	967	0.7
Age unknown	17,694	357	2.0

Textile mill operatives are most important in the age group from 16 to 24 years, where the proportion which they constitute of the total number of women gainfully employed is 6.8 per cent. In the following age group there is a marked falling off in relative importance, and a similar falling off, though less marked, is shown for each succeeding group. The decrease in relative importance in the older age groups is, however, occasioned largely by the high proportion which certain other occupations, such as farmers, housekeepers, show for these groups (see Table XXIV, page 36).

Table CVI shows for each state the percentage which textile mill operatives constituted of female breadwinners in the three principal age groups.

TABLE CVI.—*Percentage of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for leading states: 1900.*

STATE.	PER CENT OF TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.			
	Total.	16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 years and over.
Continental United States	4.8	6.8	3.9	1.5
Northern and Western states	6.1	8.0	5.2	2.2
Maine	15.8	21.7	15.1	5.6
New Hampshire	30.4	40.4	29.3	11.6
Vermont	5.9	8.0	5.8	2.0
Massachusetts	19.1	25.7	16.2	8.1
Rhode Island	33.1	42.2	28.5	14.1
Connecticut	14.0	19.0	11.6	4.6
New York	3.8	5.0	3.2	1.5
New Jersey	10.6	14.4	8.4	3.1
Pennsylvania	9.0	13.0	6.4	2.1
Ohio	0.8	1.2	0.5	0.6
Indiana	1.9	3.0	1.3	0.7
Illinois	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.5
Michigan	1.5	2.0	1.0	0.7
Wisconsin	2.1	2.9	1.0	0.8
All other	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4
Southern states	2.2	4.0	1.4	0.4
Maryland	2.5	4.1	1.8	0.8
Virginia	1.5	2.7	1.0	0.5
North Carolina	7.5	13.4	4.5	0.9
South Carolina	4.9	8.5	2.9	0.7
Georgia	3.2	5.3	2.3	0.9
Kentucky	1.3	2.3	0.9	0.4
Tennessee	1.6	3.1	1.0	0.3
Alabama	1.8	3.3	1.2	0.3
All other	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.1

For each of the age groups textile mill operatives are much more important relatively in the Northern than in the Southern states. In the majority of the New England states the percentages are especially high, indicating the importance of the textile industries as a source of occupation in those states.

In the South the presence of a large number of negroes reduces the relative importance of the occupation. The importance of the occupation for young white women of native parentage is, however, reflected in the relatively high percentages shown for the age group 16 to 24 years in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Marital condition.—The proportion of single women in any group of textile mill operatives will depend to a considerable extent upon the proportion of women 16 to 24 years of age in the group. Other factors, however, are to be taken into consideration, as may be seen by a comparison of the age distribution presented in Table CIV with the distribution by marital condition given in Table CVII.

TABLE CVII.—DISTRIBUTION,[1] BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES, FOR LEADING STATES: 1900.

STATE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.								
	Total.	Number.				Per cent.			
		Single.[2]	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.	Single.[2]	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.
Continental United States	231,458	184,825	33,234	12,189	1,210	79.9	14.4	5.3	0.5
Northern and Western states	196,423	158,615	27,195	9,630	983	80.8	13.8	4.9	0.5
Maine	7,907	5,358	2,080	381	88	67.8	26.3	4.8	1.1
New Hampshire	12,116	8,464	2,864	666	122	69.9	23.6	5.5	1.0
Vermont	1,282	973	210	83	16	75.9	16.4	6.5	1.2
Massachusetts	60,695	46,162	11,492	2,829	212	76.1	18.9	4.7	0.3
Rhode Island	15,941	13,001	2,140	702	98	81.6	13.4	4.4	0.6
Connecticut	11,787	9,883	1,408	461	35	83.8	11.9	3.9	0.3
New York	24,061	20,033	2,581	1,371	76	83.3	10.7	5.7	0.3
New Jersey	15,073	12,841	1,427	757	48	85.2	9.5	5.0	0.3
Pennsylvania	35,628	32,140	1,942	1,402	144	90.2	5.5	3.9	0.4
Ohio	1,951	1,597	160	178	16	81.9	8.2	9.1	0.8
Indiana	2,097	1,783	128	158	28	85.0	6.1	7.5	1.3
Illinois	1,542	1,283	103	133	23	83.2	6.7	8.6	1.5
Michigan	1,841	1,492	213	116	20	81.0	11.6	6.3	1.1
Wisconsin	2,230	2,030	83	98	19	91.0	3.7	4.4	0.9
All other	2,272	1,575	364	295	38	69.3	16.0	13.0	1.7
Southern states	35,035	26,210	6,039	2,559	227	74.8	17.2	7.3	0.6
Maryland	2,311	2,114	98	90	9	91.5	4.2	3.9	0.4
Virginia	1,744	1,296	265	176	7	74.3	15.2	10.1	0.4
North Carolina	9,607	7,617	1,529	433	28	79.3	15.9	4.5	0.3
South Carolina	6,975	4,673	1,880	394	28	67.0	27.0	5.6	0.4
Georgia	5,846	3,915	1,154	708	69	67.0	19.7	12.1	1.2
Kentucky	1,235	994	122	105	14	80.5	9.9	8.5	1.1
Tennessee	1,622	1,267	175	163	17	78.1	10.8	10.0	1.0
Alabama	2,880	2,091	495	264	30	72.6	17.2	9.2	1.0
All other	2,815	2,243	321	226	25	79.7	11.4	8.0	0.9

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

In spite of the younger age of textile mill operatives in the South, shown by Table CIV, the proportion of single women among them is much lower than in the North, where about four-fifths of the total number of women in this employment are single, as compared with slightly less than three-fourths in the Southern states. The proportion of married women is higher in the South than in the North; yet in Maine and New Hampshire it is higher than in any Southern state except South Carolina.

The percentage of widows among the female textile mill operatives is also larger in the South than in the North. Large numbers of widows in the South resort to the mill towns in order the more readily to find employment for themselves and their children. In general, the larger proportion of married and widowed in the South would seem to indicate that the economic necessity impelling them to take up the occupation is greater than in the North.

In the North and West there was more or less correspondence between the rank of the several states in the percentage of young women among female textile mill operatives and their rank in the percentage of single women among these operatives. In Pennsylvania, with 70.4 per cent of its operatives 16 to 24 years of age, 90.2 per cent were single; and in Massachusetts, with 57.1 per cent in the youngest age group, 76.1 per cent were single.

Comparison with census of 1890.—One of the most interesting topics connected with the discussion of women at work is that of the increase in numbers. In order, however, to obtain comparable figures the age limits must be extended to include women 15 years of age. Table CVIII gives the number and per cent distribution by race and nativity of female textile mill operatives 15 years of age and over in 1890 and 1900 and the amount and per cent of increase in each nativity class for the decade.

TABLE CVIII.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as textile mill operatives, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	250,376	100.0	211,112	100.0	39,264	18.6
Native white—both parents native	82,228	32.8	55,527	26.3	26,701	48.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	84,211	33.6	77,471	36.7	6,740	8.7
Foreign born white	83,405	33.3	77,334	36.6	6,071	7.9
Negro	526	0.2	773	0.4	[1] 247	[1] 32.0
Indian	6	(2)	7	(2)	[1] 1	(3)

[1] Decrease.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The particular significance of the table is the change in the per cent distribution of female textile mill operatives between 1890 and 1900. At the beginning of this decennial period the native whites of native parentage formed 26.3 per cent of the textile mill operatives in continental United States, as compared with 32.8 per cent at the end of the period; while the other three nativity classes each had a lower percentage in 1900 than in 1890.

During the decade, therefore, the increase in the number of native white women of native parentage in the textile mills was much greater than that of either of the other classes, and formed 68 per cent of the increase in the total number of female textile mill operatives. The exceedingly large increase in this class is to be accounted for by the rapid development of the textile industries—especially of the cotton manufactures—in the South.

Table CIX shows, for 1890 and 1900, the percentage which textile mill operatives formed of the total number of female breadwinners in each race and nativity class.

TABLE CIX.—*Number and percentage of textile mill operatives among female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Textile mill operatives.		Total.	Textile mill operatives.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,997,415	250,376	5.0	3,712,144	211,112	5.7
Native white—both parents native	1,824,690	82,228	4.5	1,310,148	55,527	4.2
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,137,649	84,211	7.4	774,751	77,471	10.0
Foreign born white	861,274	83,405	9.7	756,006	77,334	10.2
Negro	1,162,218	526	(1)	867,717	773	0.1

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The native white female breadwinners of native parentage were the only ones among whom the importance of the textile mills as a source of employment for women increased. In 1900 the textile mill operatives formed 4.5 per cent of the total number of adult female breadwinners of this class as contrasted with 4.2 per cent in 1890. Although apparently this is only a slight increase, it is particularly significant in view of the decrease in the percentages reported for each of the other classes, for it reflects the development of the textile industry in the South.

The development of the industry in the South also affects the figures in Table CX, which shows the age distribution of the three white classes of female textile mill operatives for 1890 and 1900.

TABLE CX.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as textile mill operatives, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900 and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.					
Total	250,376	100.0	211,112	100.0	39,264	18.6
15 to 24 years	165,044	65.9	143,075	67.8	21,969	15.4
25 to 34 years	51,236	20.5	40,852	19.4	10,384	25.4
35 to 44 years	21,560	8.6	14,648	6.9	6,912	47.2
45 to 54 years	8,363	3.3	6,947	3.3	1,416	20.4
55 to 64 years	2,849	1.1	3,257	1.5	[1] 408	[1] 12.5
65 years and over	997	0.4	1,926	0.9	[1] 959	[1] 49.8
Age unknown	357	0.2	407	0.2	[1] 50	[1] 12.3
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	82,228	100.0	55,527	100.0	26,701	48.1
15 to 24 years	59,125	71.9	35,294	63.6	23,831	67.5
25 to 34 years	12,884	15.7	9,272	16.7	3,612	39.0
35 to 44 years	5,645	6.9	4,811	8.7	834	17.3
45 to 54 years	2,749	3.3	2,836	5.1	[1] 87	[1] 3.1
55 to 64 years	1,187	1.4	1,797	3.2	[1] 610	[1] 33.9
65 years and over	484	0.6	1,350	2.4	[1] 866	[1] 64.1
Age unknown	154	0.2	167	0.3	[1] 13	[1] 7.8
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	84,211	100.0	77,471	100.0	6,740	8.7
15 to 24 years	56,816	67.5	59,395	76.7	[1] 2,579	[1] 4.3
25 to 34 years	19,204	22.8	14,543	18.8	4,661	32.0
35 to 44 years	6,408	7.6	2,710	3.5	3,698	136.5
45 to 54 years	1,470	1.7	521	0.7	949	182.1
55 to 64 years	220	0.3	133	0.2	87	65.4
65 years and over	54	0.1	103	0.1	[1] 49	[1] 47.6
Age unknown	39	(2)	66	0.1	[1] 27	(3)
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	83,405	100.0	77,334	100.0	6,071	7.9
15 to 24 years	48,803	58.5	48,028	62.1	775	1.6
25 to 34 years	19,058	22.8	16,881	21.8	2,177	12.9
35 to 44 years	9,455	11.3	7,044	9.1	2,411	34.2
45 to 54 years	4,105	4.9	3,511	4.5	594	16.9
55 to 64 years	1,420	1.7	1,283	1.7	137	10.7
65 years and over	406	0.5	419	0.5	[1] 13	[1] 3.1
Age unknown	158	0.2	168	0.2	[1] 10	[1] 6.0

[1] Decrease.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The most striking difference between the three classes of white female textile mill operatives was in the age period 15 to 24 years. Among the native whites of native parentage the increase of textile mill operatives within these ages was 67.5 per cent, as contrasted with an increase of only 1.6 per cent among the foreign born whites and a decrease of 4.3 per cent among the native whites of foreign parentage. Among the native whites of native parentage this age period of 15 to 24 became of much greater importance during the decade, since the percentage of the total number of female textile mill operatives of this nativity class who were within these ages increased from 63.6 in 1890 to 71.9 in 1900. Among the classes of foreign birth or parentage, on the other hand, the importance of textile mill operatives of these ages decreased noticeably, for the percentage which those 15 to 24 formed of the total fell from 76.7 to 67.5 among the native white of foreign parentage and from 62.1 to 58.5 among the foreign born whites.

These changes in the youngest period are probably to be accounted for almost completely by the development of the industry in the South. Of course this accounts entirely for the increase in the number of native whites of native parentage. That the foreign born whites increased but little while the native whites of foreign parentage actually decreased was probably largely the result of the competition of the Southern mills in the production of the coarser grades of cotton, which practically retarded the growth of mills manufacturing such goods in the North.

Table cx also suggests some other interesting subjects for consideration. Possibly the decrease in the older age periods, which is shown for all classes, results from the increased speed of modern machinery which makes the work too tiring for old people. The decrease in the number of native whites of native parentage in the age periods over 44 may also reflect the gradual replacement of this class by the foreign born whites and the native whites of foreign parentage which was in progress before the introduction of the industry in the South led to a large increase in the numbers of young women of this class.

The difference in the development of the textile industry during the decade in the two sections of the country is shown in Table cxi, in which the increase in the number of female operatives 10 years of age and over is shown for the principal states.

In the Northern and Western states the number of female textile mill operatives 10 years of age and over increased 11.7 per cent, while in the Southern states the percentage of increase was 104.2. In no one of the important textile states of the North except New Jersey and Pennsylvania was the percentage of increase large, but in the leading Southern states, North and South Carolina, the increase was one of nearly 200 per cent in each instance.

TABLE CXI.—*Increase in number of females 10 years of age and over employed as textile mill operatives, for leading states: 1900 and 1890.*

STATE.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEXTILE MILL OPERATIVES.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	278,343	228,302	50,041	21.9
Northern and Western states	226,657	202,990	23,667	11.7
Maine	9,027	8,833	194	2.2
New Hampshire	13,406	14,430	[1] 1,024	[1] 7.1
Vermont	1,466	1,372	94	6.9
Massachusetts	66,644	58,558	8,086	13.8
Rhode Island	18,605	18,613	[1] 8	(2)
Connecticut	13,216	13,174	42	0.3
New York	26,885	26,012	873	3.4
New Jersey	17,988	14,720	3,268	22.2
Pennsylvania	45,436	32,976	12,460	37.8
Ohio	2,246	3,076	[1] 830	[1] 27.0
Indiana	2,385	2,683	[1] 298	[1] 11.1
Illinois	1,771	2,355	[1] 584	[1] 24.8
Michigan	2,033	1,361	672	49.4
Wisconsin	2,906	1,926	980	50.9
All other	2,643	2,901	[1] 258	[1] 8.9
Southern states	51,686	25,312	26,374	104.2
Maryland	3,029	2,938	91	3.1
Virginia	2,236	1,511	725	48.0
North Carolina	14,969	5,162	9,807	190.0
South Carolina	11,164	3,747	7,417	197.9
Georgia	8,483	4,561	3,922	86.0
Kentucky	1,527	1,602	[1] 75	[1] 4.7
Tennessee	2,136	1,621	515	31.8
Alabama	4,449	1,830	2,619	143.1
All other	3,693	2,340	1,353	57.8

[1] Decrease. [2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Family relationship.—Another important subject is the position of the female textile mill operatives in the families to which they belong. To determine this a special tabulation has been made for the cotton mill operatives in 9 cities.[1] To have included in this tabulation female operatives employed in all branches of the textile industry would have involved an additional amount of labor which, as a large proportion of all female textile mill operatives are employed in cotton mills, was considered inadvisable. The 19,223 female cotton mill operatives who were included in the special tabulation are classified by race, nativity, and marital condition in the following tabular statement. As 14,999, or 78 per cent, of them were in Fall River and Lowell, the statistics are principally illustrative of the conditions in these 2 cities.

[1] The cities included were selected primarily on the basis of the total number of female breadwinners 16 years and over in all occupations, and without special reference to the number employed in the cotton mills. Accordingly some of the cities included in the list are of little importance so far as this occupation is concerned. The 9 cities included with the number of women in each employed in cotton mills are as follows: Fall River, Mass., 10,274; Lowell, Mass., 4,725; Baltimore, Md., 1,132; Philadelphia, Pa., 1,110; Newark, N. J., 584; Providence, R. I., 570; New Orleans, La., 336; Atlanta, Ga., 334; and Indianapolis, Ind., 158.

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS COTTON MILL OPERATIVES IN 9 SELECTED CITIES.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	19,223	2,793	4,909	11,505	16
Single (including unknown)	13,752	2,262	4,034	7,450	6
Married	4,222	322	657	3,241	2
Widowed and divorced	1,249	209	218	814	8

The white women in each of the race, nativity, and marital classes shown in this tabular statement are distributed in Table 26 (page 198) according to their relationship to the family in which they live. The percentages derived from this distribution are given in Table CXII.

Of the 19,223 adult female cotton mill operatives in the 9 selected cities, 3,908, or 20.3 per cent, boarded. If this percentage is compared with those which obtained in the other 16 occupations covered by the special tabulation, it will be found that the proportion of boarders was higher among the women engaged in 5 (see Table 26, page 198). These 5, with the percentage which boarders formed of the total number of women engaged in each, were as follows: Servants and waitresses, 79.5; housekeepers and stewardesses, 65.5; nurses and midwives, 61.3; teachers, 27.7; and stenographers and typewriters, 20.7. Of these, the first 3 were occupations in which the women often almost necessarily lived with their employers, a relationship to the family treated in this tabulation as equivalent to boarding. The percentage of boarders among the adult female cotton mill operatives, therefore, compared with that among women engaged in occupations which do not necessitate boarding, was high.

Among the several classes, however, some wide differences will be noted in this percentage. It was lowest among the single native whites of foreign parentage and highest among the widowed and divorced native whites of native parentage. For all nativity classes it was highest among the widowed and divorced; for the two native white classes it was lowest among the single, but for the foreign born whites it was lowest among the married.

Of the adult female cotton mill operatives who lived at home, the largest proportion were in families of which the father was the head. An inspection of the figures for the three marital classes will show, however, that this was true only of the single. The largest proportion of married women lived with some other relative, probably in most cases the husband, while the largest number of the widowed and divorced women were themselves heads of families. As compared with the native whites, either of native or foreign parentage, few foreign born whites, in proportion to their numbers, lived with father or mother. The reason for this is, of course, that in many cases they had no parents in this country. That fewer native white women of native parentage than native white women of foreign parentage were living at home was due probably to the fact that many of native parentage left their families and came to the cities from rural districts, while most of the native whites of foreign parentage were born in the cities.

TABLE CXII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as cotton mill operatives, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for nine selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS COTTON MILL OPERATIVES.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.	
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	79.7	77.6	87.4	76.8
Heads of families	6.7	5.1	4.6	8.0
With father	34.6	40.2	43.9	29.3
With mother	14.7	17.0	21.5	11.3
With other relative	23.6	15.3	17.4	28.3
Boarding[2]	20.3	22.4	12.6	23.2
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.0	80.3	88.6	75.2
Heads of families	3.0	2.1	2.6	3.5
With father	46.2	47.8	51.4	42.9
With mother	18.8	19.1	24.1	15.7
With other relative	12.0	11.3	10.5	13.1
Boarding[2]	20.0	19.7	11.4	24.8
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	68.3	83.7	81.6
Heads of families	6.3	6.2	5.3	6.4
With father	5.5	8.7	9.4	4.4
With mother	4.0	6.5	8.2	2.9
With other relative	65.2	46.9	60.7	67.9
Boarding[2]	19.1	31.7	16.3	18.4
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.2	62.2	77.5	73.1
Heads of families	49.0	35.4	39.4	55.2
With father	5.8	6.2	10.1	4.5
With mother	6.4	10.0	12.8	3.8
With other relative	11.0	10.5	15.1	9.6
Boarding[2]	27.8	37.8	22.5	26.9

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Fully as important as the subject of the relationship of the female cotton mill operative to the family in which she lives is the question of how far she is the source of support of that family. This question is considered in Table CXIII, which gives the per cent distribution of the adult female cotton mill operatives in the 9 selected cities by the number of other breadwinners in the family. The actual numbers from which these percentages are derived are presented in Table 27 (page 208).

TABLE CXIII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as cotton mill operatives, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for nine selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS COTTON MILL OPERATIVES.			
	Total.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	79.7	77.6	87.4	76.8
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	4.9	4.4	4.5	5.1
One other	22.2	18.1	21.7	23.4
Two other	17.8	19.4	21.0	16.0
More than two other	34.8	35.7	40.2	32.4
Boarding[2]	20.3	22.4	12.6	23.2
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.0	80.3	88.6	75.2
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	3.6	3.0	3.7	3.7
One other	14.2	16.2	17.0	12.2
Two other	19.2	21.0	22.2	17.0
More than two other	42.9	40.1	45.7	42.3
Boarding[2]	20.0	19.7	11.4	24.8
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.9	68.3	83.7	81.6
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	4.1	5.0	3.8	4.1
One other	48.3	32.3	50.2	49.5
Two other	13.6	12.1	15.5	13.4
More than two other	14.9	18.9	14.2	14.7
Boarding[2]	19.1	31.7	16.3	18.4
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.2	62.2	77.5	73.1
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	21.9	18.2	22.5	22.6
One other	21.2	16.7	23.4	21.7
Two other	15.9	13.4	14.2	17.1
More than two other	13.2	13.9	17.4	11.7
Boarding[2]	27.8	37.8	22.5	26.9

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Of the 19,223 cotton mill operatives who were included in the tabulation, but 936, or 4.9 per cent, were in families of which they were the only breadwinners, while 6,699, or 34.8 per cent, were in families in which the other breadwinners numbered more than 2. Similar tabulations were made for 16 other occupations, only 1 of which, that of servants and waitresses, showed a smaller percentage of the total living in families having no other breadwinners. None of these 16 showed a higher percentage living in families having more than 2 other breadwinners (see Table 27, page 208). The reason why the female cotton mill operatives were assisted by more breadwinners than women engaged in other occupations was probably twofold: The families of the cotton mill operatives were often the larger; and the young children of such families, living as they do in mill towns, probably found employment earlier than children of the other classes of families.

Wide variations will be noted in the figures for the three marital classes. Of the single, the largest percentage (42.9) lived in families having more than 2 other breadwinners; of the married, the largest (48.3) lived in families having 1 other breadwinner; while of the married and divorced, the largest (27.8) boarded. Such variations are, of course, to be explained largely by the facts brought out in Table CXII. The single female operatives generally lived with the father or mother and thus had the parents and brothers and sisters to aid them. The married usually lived with the husband, who was the 1 other breadwinner, since in most cases the children, if there were any, were too young to be gainfully occupied. The widowed and divorced women were often themselves heads of families, and in such cases, unless they had children old enough to help them, would naturally be the only breadwinners.

The figures for the three white classes of female cotton mill operatives do not disclose any very marked differences. It would seem that the foreign born whites had fewer other breadwinners in their families than either class of native whites, and this would naturally be expected, since probably fewer members of their families were in this country. The figures for the married, however, would not support this view; but it should be noted that the figures for the several classes of married, and also of widowed and divorced, are almost too small to permit safe generalization.

SALESWOMEN.

In 1900, 142,265 women 16 years of age and over were reported as saleswomen in continental United States. As a field of employment for women this occupation ranked eighth. Although numerically considered the occupation of saleswomen is one of the most important in the employment of women, it is not one of those in

which this sex assumes relatively high proportions. Of the 611,139 persons reported in 1900 for the occupation "salesmen and saleswomen," only 23.3 per cent were women, and but 24.4 per cent were females 10 years of age and over, the proportion in each case being less than one-fourth. Of the 46 other occupations employing at least 5,000 women, there were 31 in which the percentage of women was larger (see Table XXII, page 32). The proportion of women among salesmen and saleswomen is, however, larger than it is among all persons gainfully employed, for whom the percentage is 17.7, a variation due of course to the wider range of occupations open to men.

From an economic standpoint this occupation may perhaps be regarded as occupying a median position. The work is probably less exhausting and the general conditions more attractive than is apt to be the case in the calling of a factory operative, and from a sanitary standpoint it is perhaps to be preferred, although conditions are often far from being ideal. On the other hand, the long, close confinement and the relatively low wages cause it to contrast unfavorably with a number of other occupations, and especially with those for which technical training is required.

Race and nativity.—Table CXIV presents the per cent distribution, by race and nativity, of saleswomen in the different geographic divisions of continental United States.

By far the largest proportion, 87.9 per cent, of the women employed as saleswomen in continental United States were native white women. These were divided in almost equal proportions between those of native and of foreign parentage, there being a difference of 3.3 per cent in favor of the latter. The proportion of foreign born white is relatively small, while that of colored (negro, Indian, and Mongolian) is insignificant.

Reference to Table XXIII (page 34) will show that this is one of the leading occupations in the proportion which the native white of foreign parentage constitute of the total number of women employed, its rank in this respect being sixth. Of the 5 occupations reporting a higher percentage for this nativity class, none employed over 20,000 women.

TABLE CXIV.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by race and nativity, of saleswomen 16 years of age and over, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	Number.	Per cent.			
		Native white—			
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
Continental United States.	142,265	42.3	45.6	11.9	0.3
North Atlantic	69,258	36.4	49.0	14.5	0.1
South Atlantic	9,000	68.0	26.1	4.4	1.5
North Central	49,259	41.7	47.3	10.9	0.1
South Central	7,994	66.5	27.6	4.5	1.4
Western	6,754	43.1	45.3	11.3	0.2

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 187.

Reference to Table 25 (page 196) will show that the territorial distribution for this occupation does not follow the distribution of the total population or that of all women gainfully employed; but that there is a marked concentration in the more populous sections of the country where trade and commerce are most highly developed. The North Atlantic and the North Central divisions, which comprised 62.4 per cent, or about three-fifths of the total population, reported 83.3 per cent, or five-sixths, of the saleswomen, the North Atlantic division alone reporting 48.7 per cent, or nearly one-half, although this division comprises only 27.7 per cent of the total population. The 4 leading states, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Illinois, in the order named, each with over 10,000 saleswomen, reported an aggregate of 69,305, representing 48.7 per cent, or nearly one-half, of the total number of saleswomen, although these states comprised but 27.9 per cent, or about one-fourth, of the total population.

Table CXV shows, for the different race and nativity classes, the proportion of saleswomen 16 years of age and over among all female breadwinners of the same age, for the country at large, for the large cities, and for the smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE CXV.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SALESWOMEN AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Saleswomen.		Total.	Saleswomen.		Total.	Saleswomen.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	142,265	2.9	1,657,728	83,849	5.1	3,175,902	58,416	1.8
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	60,120	3.4	414,954	27,234	6.6	1,357,012	32,886	2.4
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	64,857	5.9	554,806	43,717	7.9	535,938	21,140	3.9
Foreign born white	840,011	16,896	2.0	494,044	12,743	2.6	345,967	4,153	1.2
Negro	1,119,621	378	(1)	193,317	151	0.1	926,304	227	(1)
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	14	0.1	607	4	0.7	10,681	10	0.1

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

It will be seen that in a comparison restricted to the white race, the occupation is most important for the native born of foreign parentage and least important for those of foreign birth, the proportion of female breadwinners 16 years and over employed as saleswomen being almost three times as great in the former nativity class as in the latter.

Among female breadwinners of all classes saleswomen form a much larger proportion in the large cities than in the smaller cities and country districts, the proportion in the former being 5.1 per cent, or about 1 in 20, and in the latter 1.8 per cent, or less than 1 in 50. For each race and nativity class the proportion is also higher in the large cities. The large number of women engaged in agricultural pursuits in the rural districts is of course a factor in producing these differences, but even when women employed in these pursuits are excluded, in the smaller cities and country districts the proportion that saleswomen constitute of the total number of women gainfully employed in pursuits other than agricultural would be but 2.4 per cent, or less than half as great as the corresponding percentage for the large cities.

The fact that in the large cities as well as in the smaller cities and country districts, the occupation is less important for native white women of native parentage than for those of foreign parentage may indicate that women of the former nativity class are more apt to enter pursuits requiring a special training and skill, and are consequently on a somewhat higher economic plane than is represented by this occupation.

It will be seen that while the numbers of native white of native and of foreign parentage are nearly the same for the country at large, there is a marked difference in the distribution in the different areas. In the large cities more than one-half of the saleswomen are native white of foreign parentage, while in the smaller cities and country districts more than one-half are native white of native parentage. These variations are of course due mainly to differences in the composition of the general population.

A reference to Table 23 (page 178) will show more clearly the degree to which the occupation tends to concentrate in the large cities. Of the total number of saleswomen 16 years of age and over, 58.9 per cent, or nearly three-fifths, are in cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants, although the corresponding proportion for all women gainfully employed is but 34.3 per cent, or about one-third. Only 11 of the 47 occupations employing at least 5,000 women and but 3 of those employing at least 20,000 women show a higher proportion in the large cities. It will be seen from Table CXV that this concentration of saleswomen in the cities is especially marked, for the native white of foreign parentage and for the foreign born white, the percentages in cities being 67.4 and 75.4, respectively.

The greater importance of the occupation in the large cities is due of course to the much higher development of mercantile enterprises in these cities. But this development has also resulted in women becoming much more important in the occupation. In the big department store where there are frequently hundreds of employees, women are, as a rule, employed to a much greater degree proportionally than in smaller establishments. This fact is perhaps more clearly indicated in Table CXVI, which shows the proportion of females among the total number of salesmen and saleswomen 10 years of age and over for 10 cities, selected as having the highest development of trade and representing the principal sections of the country.

TABLE CXVI.—*Number and percentage of females among salesmen and saleswomen 10 years of age and over, for ten selected cities: 1900.*

CITY.	SALESMEN AND SALESWOMEN 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Saleswomen.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	611,139	149,230	24.4
New York[1]	43,701	15,149	34.7
Chicago	29,828	7,816	26.2
Philadelphia	24,150	7,832	32.4
St. Louis	11,536	2,585	22.4
Boston	14,221	5,136	36.1
Baltimore	7,979	3,042	38.1
San Francisco	6,988	1,434	20.5
New Orleans	2,891	786	27.2
Washington	3,964	1,320	33.3
Denver	2,848	777	27.3

[1] Includes Manhattan and Bronx boroughs only.

This table shows that in all but 2 of the selected cities the proportion of females in the occupation is higher than for the country at large, the difference in the case of Baltimore amounting to 13.7 per cent. In 5 cities—New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, and Washington—the proportion of females among salesmen and saleswomen is approximately 1 in 3 or even higher, and of these cities the first 3 probably are those in which the department store has attained the highest state of organization.

Parentage.—Table CXVII indicates the importance of the occupation for the principal parentage classes represented by saleswomen 10 years of age and over.

This table brings out clearly the effect which the unimportance of the occupation among the colored races has in reducing the general average, as a higher percentage is shown both for the native white of native parentage, and for all but three nationalities among those of foreign parentage than for the total of all races and nativities. For the two countries, Germany and Ireland, which furnish over three-fifths of all saleswomen of foreign parentage, the percentage of female breadwinners employed as saleswomen is higher than it is for all of foreign parentage, bringing out clearly the relative importance of the occupation for these nationalities. The occupation is most important relatively, however, for female breadwinners of Russian parentage, of whom 6.8 per cent were employed as saleswomen, against 4.9 per cent for those of German parentage, and 4.2 per cent for all of foreign parentage.

TABLE CXVII.—*Number and percentage of saleswomen among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Saleswomen.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	149,230	2.8
Native parentage	3,247,907	62,827	1.9
Native white	1,926,637	62,427	3.2
All other	1,321,270	400	(1)
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	86,403	4.2
Austria-Hungary[2]	65,940	2,245	3.4
Canada (English)	102,181	4,047	4.0
Canada (French)	78,979	1,736	2.2
France and Switzerland	36,289	1,287	3.5
Germany	538,192	26,449	4.9
Great Britain[3]	205,085	8,295	4.0
Ireland	634,201	27,090	4.3
Italy	26,093	717	2.7
Poland	38,536	1,375	3.6
Russia	40,816	2,767	6.8
Scandinavia[4]	144,662	3,030	2.1
All others[5]	160,516	7,365	4.6

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[2] Includes Bohemia.
[3] Includes England, Wales, and Scotland.
[4] Includes Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.
[5] Includes those of mixed foreign parentage.

Age.—Table CXVIII presents the distribution by age periods of saleswomen of each race and nativity class.

TABLE CXVIII.—*Distribution, by age, of saleswomen 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration):[1] 1900.*

AGE.	SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	142,290	60,129	64,864	16,898	378
16 to 24 years	88,626	36,195	41,454	10,773	197
25 to 34 years	37,911	15,857	18,228	3,709	105
35 to 44 years	10,948	5,280	4,216	1,404	47
45 to 54 years	3,334	1,943	769	608	14
55 to 64 years	1,007	587	132	278	9
65 years and over	288	156	30	98	4
Age unknown	176	111	35	28	2
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	62.3	60.2	63.9	63.8	52.1
25 to 34 years	26.6	26.4	28.1	21.9	27.8
35 to 44 years	7.7	8.8	6.5	8.3	12.4
45 to 54 years	2.3	3.2	1.2	3.6	3.7
55 to 64 years	0.7	1.0	0.2	1.6	2.4
65 years and over	0.2	0.3	(2)	0.6	1.1
Age unknown	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

This table shows that 62.3 per cent, or more than three-fifths, of the total number of saleswomen 16 years of age and over are under 25 years of age, and 88.9 per cent, or approximately nine-tenths, are under 35 years of age. There are no very marked contrasts in the per cent distribution shown for the three classes of white women. But the few negro women reported for this occupation are as a group considerably older than the white women. Reference to Table XXIV (page 36) will bring out even more clearly the fact that this is preeminently an occupation for young women. Of the 47 occupations employing at least 5,000 women, that of saleswomen ranks tenth in the proportion under 25 years of age, while only 5 of the occupations showing a higher proportion employ over 20,000 women.

Table CXIX shows, by age groups, the percentage of female breadwinners that are employed as saleswomen.

TABLE CXIX.—*Number and percentage of saleswomen among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Saleswomen.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	142,290	2.9
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	88,626	4.1
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	37,911	3.2
35 to 44 years	676,548	10,948	1.6
45 to 54 years	441,457	3,334	0.8
55 to 64 years	256,926	1,007	0.4
65 years and over	138,691	288	0.2
Age unknown	18,211	176	1.0

It appears from this table that for the race and nativity classes combined the occupation is most important relatively for females from 16 to 24 years of age, the percentage being 4.1, or about 1 in 25, against 2.9 for those of all ages. The percentage decreases in each succeeding age group.

Marital condition.—The following tabular statement presents, for continental United States, the distribution according to marital condition of saleswomen 16 years of age and over:

MARITAL CONDITION.	SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.	
	Number.[1]	Per cent distribution.[1]
Total	142,265	100.0
Single (including unknown)	128,409	90.3
Married	7,613	5.4
Widowed and divorced	6,243	4.4

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.

It will be seen that this is preeminently an occupation for single women, and in fact it is 1 of the 10 occupations reporting the largest percentages of single

women. This high proportion of single women is generally characteristic of the trade and transportation group, 5 out of the 10 occupations reporting 90 per cent or more as single, belonging to this group (see Table 21, page 170). It may be noted that the high rank of this occupation in the percentage of single women corresponds closely to its rank in the percentage of women under 25 years of age. This indicates of course that large numbers of girls and young women enter this occupation and that comparatively few of them remain in it after they marry.

Comparison with previous censuses.—At censuses prior to 1870 salesmen and saleswomen were probably returned and classified as clerks. In 1870, however, a separate classification was adopted, but from the smallness of the total reported both at this census and that of 1880—14,203 and 32,279, respectively—it seems probable that persons who should properly have been reported for this occupation were still largely returned as clerks. The attention of the Census Bureau was called to this fact, and at the census of 1890, as well as in 1900, specific instructions were issued, cautioning the enumerators against confusing the two occupations.

Under these instructions the number of salesmen and saleswomen returned in 1890 was 264,394, an increase over 1880 of 232,115, or 719.1 per cent. In 1900 there was another phenomenal increase, the number reported at that census being 611,139. As stated in the Twelfth Census Report on Occupations,[1] it seems probable that even at the census of 1890 many salesmen or saleswomen had been improperly returned as clerks, and the fact that the latter occupation showed the comparatively small increase for both sexes of 72,769, or 13.1 per cent, would seem to bear out the theory that there was a more accurate segregation in 1900.

Because of the difference in the age periods adopted at the two censuses, it is impossible to make any comparison for female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, but the increase in the number of saleswomen 15 years and over was 89,406, or 156.4 per cent. The only occupations reporting a larger absolute increase in the total number of females employed were those of agricultural laborers and laundresses (see Table 22, page 176). Apart from the improved accuracy in classification, it is probable that the rapid development of the department store system in the larger cities may have had an important share in causing this increase.

This increase, whether real or apparent, has, however, resulted in a marked increase in the importance of this pursuit in the census returns. At the census of 1900 2.8 per cent of all females gainfully employed were reported for this occupation, against but 1.5 per cent at the census of 1890. There has also been an apparent increase in the importance of women in the occupation, 24.4 per cent of those reported as salesmen and saleswomen in 1900 being females, against 22.1 per cent in 1890. Although, for the reasons just mentioned, it is impossible to say just how far this represents an actual increase, it is certain that the development of the department store has had an important influence in raising the proportion of women employed. As compared with 1880, however, the increase is apparently slight, amounting to four-tenths of 1 per cent; but there is too much uncertainty attending this comparison to permit any conclusions to be drawn.

[1] Twelfth Census, Occupations, page xxvi.

Family relationship.—Table cxx presents statistics as to the family relationship of the 65,186 saleswomen in 27 selected cities, who represent 45.8 per cent, or nearly one-half, of the total number of saleswomen 16 years of age and over in the United States. The following tabular statement indicates the race, nativity, and marital condition of these saleswomen:

MARITAL CONDITION.	SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER IN 27 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	65,186	19,396	35,093	10,595	102
Single (including unknown)	60,062	17,372	33,249	9,367	74
Married	2,486	919	839	712	16
Widowed and divorced	2,638	1,105	1,005	516	12

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

Grouping together all saleswomen, whatever their marital condition, reported as living with father, and all married saleswomen reported as living with other relative—who, in the majority of cases, was the husband—an aggregate is obtained of 31,936, or 49 per cent, of the total number of saleswomen in the selected cities (see Table 26, page 199). It is probably safe to assume that except in a relatively small proportion of these cases the father or husband is himself a wage-earner, and bears the main burden of the family support, so that the saleswoman's earnings in such cases are of value because they enable her to live according to a somewhat higher standard rather than because they are required for a livelihood. In view of the relatively low rates of wages paid in this occupation, the large proportion of saleswomen in this class is significant. It indicates that to at least half of the saleswomen in these large cities the wages received represent added comfort of living rather than the bare necessities; and, conversely, the prevailing rate of wages makes it inevitable that such women should be relatively numerous in the occupation. This ability to obtain a class of help not entirely dependent upon their earnings is probably a prominent factor in keeping down the rates of wages and in increasing the employment of women in the large department stores.

TABLE CXX.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of saleswomen 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	85.1	76.0	90.6	83.5	70.6
Heads of families	2.9	3.2	2.1	4.7	4.9
With father	47.2	40.6	50.9	46.9	27.5
With mother	21.3	18.4	25.1	14.2	18.6
With other relative	13.8	13.9	12.5	17.7	19.6
Boarding[2]	14.9	24.0	9.4	16.5	29.4
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	86.1	77.7	91.2	83.5	(3)
Heads of families	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.8	(3)
With father	50.1	44.1	52.8	51.8	(3)
With mother	22.3	19.4	25.7	15.5	(3)
With other relative	12.4	12.7	11.6	14.5	(3)
Boarding[2]	13.9	22.3	8.8	16.5	(3)
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	76.4	65.4	80.2	86.2	(3)
Heads of families	9.2	8.9	10.1	8.4	(3)
With father	12.2	10.2	16.4	9.8	(3)
With mother	7.0	7.1	10.4	2.8	(3)
With other relative	48.0	39.2	43.3	65.2	(3)
Boarding[2]	23.6	34.6	19.8	13.8	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	71.0	59.2	80.7	78.1	(3)
Heads of families	32.1	25.2	29.6	52.5	(3)
With father	13.0	10.2	18.2	8.7	(3)
With mother	12.7	11.1	17.9	6.0	(3)
With other relative	13.2	12.7	15.0	10.9	(3)
Boarding[2]	29.0	40.8	19.3	21.9	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Further light is thrown upon the economic position of the saleswomen in the selected cities by Table CXXI, which presents statistics as to the number of other breadwinners in the families of which these women are members.

This table shows that 80 per cent, or four-fifths, of the saleswomen in these cities are living in families in which there are other breadwinners, and that 57.2 per cent, or nearly three-fifths, are living in families with at least 2 other breadwinners. On the other hand, only 5.1 per cent, or about 1 in 20, were living in families having no other breadwinners. This is a small proportion as compared with that for most of the other important occupations represented in the special tabulation (see Table 27, page 208), and is less than half as large as the proportion (10.9 per cent) for all occupations, exclusive of servants and waitresses (see Table XXI, page 30).

TABLE CXXI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of saleswomen 16 years of age and over, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF SALESWOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	85.1	76.0	90.6	83.5	70.6
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	5.1	5.6	4.9	5.0	2.9
One other	22.8	23.6	22.0	23.5	30.4
Two other	25.1	24.0	26.3	23.3	22.5
More than two other	32.1	22.8	37.4	31.7	14.7
Boarding[2]	14.9	24.0	9.4	16.5	29.4
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	86.1	77.7	91.2	83.5	(3)
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	4.2	4.6	4.2	3.5	(3)
One other	22.1	23.2	21.6	21.8	(3)
Two other	26.0	25.4	26.8	24.3	(3)
More than two other	33.8	24.4	38.6	34.0	(3)
Boarding[2]	13.9	22.3	8.8	16.5	(3)
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	76.4	65.4	80.2	86.2	(3)
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	9.0	8.1	11.0	8.1	.....
One other	38.2	34.4	35.8	45.6	(3)
Two other	14.7	12.6	15.7	16.3	(3)
More than two other	14.5	10.3	17.8	16.2	(3)
Boarding[2]	23.6	34.6	19.8	13.8	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	71.0	59.2	80.7	78.1	(3)
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	20.8	17.8	20.6	27.9	.....
One other	23.8	21.6	20.1	24.2	(3)
Two other	14.8	11.0	18.9	14.3	(3)
More than two other	11.7	8.7	15.1	11.6	.....
Boarding[2]	29.0	40.8	19.3	21.9	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Ignoring the percentages for the small number of negroes, the proportion of boarders is greatest among native white women of native parentage, indicating that they probably engage in the occupation as a means of independent livelihood more often than do women of

the other nativity classes. The boarders probably represent to a large extent women who have come from the country districts to seek employment in the city. In spite of the probability that these women in most cases have no one but themselves to support, it is doubtful whether in the majority of instances their wages are sufficient to afford them more than the barest livelihood, so that it is probably among such women that the economic aspect of the occupation is most serious.

It is perhaps significant that while in the 27 cities as a whole approximately one-half of the saleswomen are living with father, the detailed figures given in Table 28 (page 218) show that in the 2 Southern cities of Atlanta and New Orleans the proportion is only about one-third, the percentages being 34.2 and 31.3, respectively. On the other hand, these cities report high proportions as living with mother, that for New Orleans being almost exactly one-third. In fact, this city alone out of the 27 shows more saleswomen living with mother than with father. The proportion living in families with no other breadwinners is also relatively high in these cities. This fact may perhaps indicate that the attitude toward the employment of white women in the South is marked by more or less aversion to entering pursuits in which they come directly into competition with men; for it would appear that in this section of the country women take up these pursuits only when the burden of supporting the family devolves upon them by the loss through death or other cause of the male head, the natural breadwinner of the family.

CLERKS AND COPYISTS.

The Twelfth Census report on Occupations shows that there were 630,127 persons employed as clerks and copyists in continental United States in 1900. The group of breadwinners thus classified included persons engaged in clerical work of every kind, and embraced such widely diverse pursuits as those of bank clerks, postal clerks, mail clerks, mail carriers, clerks in national, state, county, or city offices, and shipping clerks.

Many of these occupations are not well adapted to the employment of women, and consequently breadwinners of this sex are not especially prominent among clerks and copyists either numerically or in proportion to the total number of persons included in the classification, as is shown in the following tabular statement:

AGE AND SEX.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	630,127	100.0
Males	544,881	86.5
16 years and over	527,122	83.7
10 to 15 years	17,759	2.8
Females	85,246	13.5
16 years and over	81,000	12.8
10 to 15 years	4,246	0.7

The 81,000 women 16 years of age and over returned as clerks and copyists in 1900 formed only 12.8 per cent of the total number of persons in this occupation group. Of the 140 different groups of occupations distinguished in the Census report, 14 employed a larger number of women, and 43 a larger percentage of women.[1]

As a field for the employment of women, therefore, the occupation of clerks and copyists is not of exceptional importance as regards the number of women employed, and the main reason for making a separate study of it in the present report is that it gives employment to a relatively high grade of labor.

Race and nativity.—The superior qualifications required have a direct effect upon the race and nativity constitution of this group of female breadwinners, as is shown in Table CXXII.

TABLE CXXII.—*Distribution, by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	81,000	100.0
Native white—both parents native	40,984	50.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	32,099	39.6
Foreign born white	7,368	9.1
Negro	539	0.7

More than 90 per cent of the women employed as clerks and copyists were native whites, those of native parentage representing over 50 per cent of the total and those of foreign parentage nearly 40 per cent. The occupation ranked eighteenth among the 47 principal occupations for women in respect to the proportion of native white women of native parentage and sixteenth in respect to the proportion of native white women of foreign parentage (see Table XXIII, page 34). The relative prominence of these two classes of women in the occupation is largely the result of their superior training and education as compared with other classes, also of racial advantages as compared with the negro women, and of familiarity with English as compared with most of the foreign born.

There was considerable variation among the different geographic divisions in respect to the proportion of the two principal classes, as is shown in Table CXXIII, which presents the race and nativity distribution of female clerks and copyists 16 years of age and over for geographic divisions.

In the South Atlantic and South Central divisions the native white women of native parents greatly outnumber all the other race and nativity classes, forming

[1] Twelfth Census, Occupations, Tables XLVII and XLVIII, pages cxxxiii and cxxxv.

74.2 per cent of the total number of women employed in the occupation in the former division and 71.6 per cent in the latter. In the North Atlantic, North Central, and Western divisions, however, the proportion of native white of native parents in the occupation is considerably less, ranging from 43.9 per cent in the North Central division to 51.5 per cent in the Western.

These variations in the proportions for the two principal classes among the several divisions are probably almost entirely due to the geographic distribution of these classes in the general population. In the Southern states the white population consists very largely of the native white of native parentage, while in the Northern and Western states there is a large representation of native whites of foreign parentage.

TABLE CXXIII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.				
	Number.	Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	81,000	50.6	39.6	9.1	0.7
North Atlantic	34,922	49.3	40.6	9.8	0.3
South Atlantic	8,030	74.2	19.6	3.2	3.0
North Central	31,832	43.9	45.4	10.3	0.3
South Central	3,037	71.6	22.5	3.2	2.7
Western	3,179	51.5	38.3	9.9	0.2

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 186.

The importance of the occupation among female breadwinners of the different race and nativity classes is indicated by Table CXXIV. In this table the proportion of women clerks and copyists among all working women 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, is shown for continental United States and separately for cities having 50,000 or more inhabitants.

It appears that in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants 5.2 per cent of the breadwinners among the white women of native parentage were employed as clerks and copyists, or 1 in 19, while only 4 per cent of those of foreign parentage were thus employed, or 1 in 25. In other words, the occupation appears to be considerably more important in the large cities for native white working women of native parentage than for those of foreign parentage, for the reason probably that the former class of women are reluctant to take up some of the employments which are pursued very extensively by the latter and are as a rule somewhat better qualified educationally for the work of a clerk or copyist.

TABLE CXXIV.—*Number and percentage of clerks and copyists among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States and for cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	Total.	Clerks and copyists.		In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.		
				Total.	Clerks and copyists.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	81,000	1.7	1,657,728	49,483	3.0
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	40,984	2.3	414,954	21,579	5.2
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	32,099	2.9	554,806	22,147	4.0
Foreign born white	840,011	7,368	0.9	494,044	5,426	1.1
Negro	1,119,621	539	(1)	193,317	329	0.2

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Parentage.—At this point it may be interesting to present the statistics by race and nativity in somewhat greater detail, especially as regards the foreign element. Table CXXV has been introduced for this purpose, showing the relative importance of the occupation among the breadwinners of native and of foreign parentage and of several different specified nationalities. Data for this analysis are not available for women 16 years of age and over exclusively, and consequently it has been necessary to present the statistics for females 10 years of age and over.

TABLE CXXV.—*Number and percentage of clerks and copyists among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Clerks and copyists.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	85,246	1.6
Native parentage	3,247,907	42,962	1.3
Native white	1,926,637	42,442	2.2
All other	1,321,270	520	(1)
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	42,284	2.0
Canada (English)	102,181	2,823	2.8
England and Wales	158,912	4,433	2.8
Germany	538,192	11,347	2.1
Ireland	634,201	12,688	2.0
Scotland	46,173	1,193	2.6
Other countries	479,004	6,340	1.3
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	3,460	3.1

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

It appears from the table that the nationalities from northern and western Europe, which predominated in the early immigration to this country, find the occupation more important than do the other nationalities which represent a more recent immigration movement coming largely from southern and eastern Europe. The

English (including the English Canadians, Scotch, and Welsh), the Germans, and the Irish have 2 per cent or more of their female breadwinners employed as clerks and copyists, and in this respect compare very favorably with the white women born in this country of native parents. None of the southern or eastern European nationalities, however, have as many as 2 per cent of their female breadwinners in the occupation, and for this reason have not been shown separately in the table.

The difference between the two classes of nationalities is no doubt due to the fact that both native whites of foreign parentage and foreign born whites are included under the head of foreign parentage in the above table. In consequence the nationalities represented in the earlier immigration as compared with the later would have a larger proportion of native born persons and a smaller proportion of foreign born, and thus would be in a better position to enter an occupation like that of clerks and copyists, in which a certain amount of educational training, the ability to speak English, and familiarity with American institutions and methods are of paramount importance.

Age.—In Table CXXVI the women clerks and copyists 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, are distributed by age periods. The census figures do not admit of this distribution being made for continental United States, to which the statistics heretofore presented apply, and accordingly the table includes all the women employed as clerks and copyists in the entire area of enumeration[1] at the census of 1900.

Of the 81,023 women included in Table CXXVI, 48,068, or 59.3 per cent, were from 16 to 24 years of age. So large a proportion in the youngest age period is rather exceptional, only 14 of the 47 occupations employing more than 5,000 women showing larger proportions of young women (see Table XXIV, page 36).

Of the native white women of foreign parentage who are engaged in this occupation, 64.8 per cent are in the youngest age group. This is the largest proportion shown for any race and nativity class, the foreign born whites showing the next largest proportion, 60.2 per cent. The explanation of this condition does not appear from the statistics, but it is probable that the large proportion in the youngest age group among female clerks and copyists of foreign parentage is due in part to the fact that the proportion of young women in this element of the female population is exceptionally large, principally because this is the youngest class in the population, being composed of the children of immigrants born after their parents came to this country.

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE CXXVI.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	81,023	40,994	32,108	7,372	539
16 to 24 years	48,068	22,540	20,793	4,437	292
25 to 34 years	21,728	11,237	8,594	1,760	133
35 to 44 years	7,083	4,318	2,059	639	67
45 to 54 years	2,776	1,901	494	354	27
55 to 64 years	991	724	126	130	11
65 years and over	265	192	23	44	6
Age unknown	112	82	19	8	3
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	59.3	55.0	64.8	60.2	54.2
25 to 34 years	26.8	27.4	26.8	23.9	24.7
35 to 44 years	8.7	10.5	6.4	8.7	12.4
45 to 54 years	3.4	4.6	1.5	4.8	5.0
55 to 64 years	1.2	1.8	0.4	1.8	2.0
65 years and over	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.6	1.1
Age unknown	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6

Table CXXVII shows the number of women clerks and copyists in each age period, together with the percentage which they form of the total number of female breadwinners of the same age.

TABLE CXXVII.—*Number and percentage of clerks and copyists among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by age, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Clerks and copyists.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	81,023	1.7
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	48,068	2.2
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	21,728	1.9
35 to 44 years	676,548	7,083	1.0
45 to 54 years	441,457	2,776	0.6
55 to 64 years	256,926	991	0.4
65 years and over	138,691	265	0.2
Age unknown	18,211	112	0.6

The female clerks and copyists from 16 to 24 years of age and those from 25 to 34 years of age form 2.2 per cent and 1.9 per cent, respectively, of the total number of female breadwinners in these age periods. In no other age group do they form more than 1 per cent of the total number of female breadwinners, and the percentage thus formed decreases as the oldest age period is approached. It is evident, therefore, that the occupation is more important as an

employment for the two younger classes of women workers than for those in the older age groups.

The proportion of female clerks and copyists in the youngest age period does not differ greatly for the several geographic divisions from that for continental United States, except in the Northern South Atlantic states, as is shown by Table CXXVIII.

TABLE CXXVIII.—*Number and percentage of clerks and copyists 16 to 24 years of age in total number of female clerks and copyists 16 years of age and over, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.		
	Total.	16 to 24 years.	
		Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	81,000	48,057	59.3
North Atlantic division	34,922	20,524	58.8
New England	10,326	5,256	50.9
Southern North Atlantic	24,596	15,268	62.1
South Atlantic division	8,030	3,071	38.2
Northern South Atlantic	6,969	2,429	34.9
Southern South Atlantic	1,061	642	60.5
North Central division	31,832	20,816	65.4
Eastern North Central	23,044	15,202	66.0
Western North Central	8,788	5,614	63.9
South Central division	3,037	1,814	59.7
Eastern South Central	1,849	1,115	60.3
Western South Central	1,188	699	58.8
Western division	3,179	1,832	57.6
Rocky Mountain	841	484	57.6
Basin and Plateau	266	175	65.8
Pacific	2,072	1,173	56.6

In the Northern South Atlantic states only 34.9 per cent of the clerks and copyists are from 16 to 24 years of age, New England having the next larger proportion, 50.9 per cent. Outside these two divisions the percentage under 25 nowhere falls below 56.

The relatively small proportion of women clerks and copyists who are from 16 to 24 years of age in the Northern South Atlantic states reflects the conditions in the Government service at Washington, where most of the women clerks and copyists reported for this group of states are employed, the majority of them being 25 years of age and over.

The influence of the exceptional conditions in Washington on the age constitution of the women clerks and copyists in the Northern South Atlantic states is indicated by the following tabular statement in which the percentage of women clerks and copyists 16 to 24 years of age is shown separately for Washington, other cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants, and smaller cities and country districts:

AREA.	Total.	16 TO 24 YEARS.	
		Number.	Percent.
Northern South Atlantic division	6,966	2,429	34.9
Washington	4,661	1,128	24.2
Other cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants	1,120	647	57.8
Smaller cities and country districts	1,185	654	55.2

It is evident from the above statement that the small proportion of women clerks and copyists reported for the age period 16 to 24 years of age in Washington, 24.2 per cent, has brought the percentage for this age period in the Northern South Atlantic division from approximately 60 per cent to 34.9 per cent and is thus solely responsible for the small proportion of young women found in the occupation in that division.

Marital condition.—In Table CXXIX the women clerks and copyists, classified by race and nativity, are distributed by marital condition, so as to show the percentage of single, married, widowed, and divorced.

TABLE CXXIX.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS: PER CENT[2]—			
	Single.[3]	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.
All classes	89.7	5.2	4.5	0.6
Native white—both parents native	87.5	6.1	5.6	0.8
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	94.0	3.0	2.6	0.4
Foreign born white	85.0	8.7	5.8	0.5
Negro	60.8	20.8	11.5	0.9

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 21, page 170.
[2] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[3] Including unknown.

The occupation of clerk and copyist is followed almost exclusively by single women. In fact, in only 11 of the 47 occupations employing more than 5,000 women was the proportion of single women greater than in this occupation (see Table xxv, page 38). The proportion of single women was largest, and the proportion of married, widowed, and divorced women smallest, among the native whites of foreign parentage.

Comparison with census of 1890.—It would be interesting in connection with the present investigation to compare the statistics regarding the employment of women as clerks and copyists at earlier censuses with those for the present census. But, unfortunately, the value of the returns at former censuses was greatly impaired by the fact that large numbers of salesmen and saleswomen were reported as clerks, thus greatly swelling the number of persons included in the latter class at the expense of the former.[1] This confusion in the constitution of the two classes at former censuses precludes any detailed comparison of the statistics with those for 1900, and consequently Table cxxx is the only table presented in this connection.

The total number of women clerks and copyists increased 20,909, or 33.3 per cent, in 1900 as compared with 1890. Substantial increases are shown for each of the race and nativity classes, these increases being sufficient to keep the position of each class practically unchanged as regards its proportionate share in the occupation.

[1] See page 95 of this report.

TABLE CXXX.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over, employed as clerks and copyists, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	83,726	100.0	62,817	100.0	20,909	33.3
Native white—both parents native	41,918	50.1	31,431	50.0	10,487	33.4
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	33,364	39.8	24,741	39.4	8,623	34.9
Foreign born white	7,885	9.4	6,299	10.0	1,586	25.2
Negro	549	0.7	341	0.5	208	61.0

[1] For area of enumeration.

Family relationship.—Certain data bearing upon the relationship of the women clerks and copyists to the families from which they were reported have been compiled from the original enumeration schedules of the Twelfth Census for the 27 cities which led in 1900 in the number of female breadwinners. The detailed figures appear in the general tables which accompany the present report and should be consulted in connection with the discussion that follows (see Tables 26 to 29).

The following tabular statement shows the number of female clerks and copyists included in these 27 cities and their distribution by race, nativity, and marital condition:

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS IN 27 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	39,487	16,433	18,282	4,522	250
Single (including unknown)	35,348	14,088	17,189	3,894	177
Married	1,740	890	480	338	32
Widowed and divorced	2,399	1,455	613	290	41

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 36.

The percentages based upon the data concerning the family relationship of the 39,487 women who were employed as clerks and copyists in the 27 selected cities, are shown in Table CXXXI.

Of the women in this occupation, 32,410, or 82.1 per cent, were living in their own families—1,895, or 4.8 per cent, being the heads of the families in which they lived; 25,191, or 63.8 per cent, living with their parents; and 5,324, or 13.5 per cent, living with other relatives. The remaining 7,077 women, or 17.9 per cent of the whole number, were boarding in other than their own families.

Leaving the negroes out of consideration as being numerically unimportant, the native whites with both parents native comprised the largest proportion of boarders (25.6 per cent), and the native whites of foreign parentage the smallest proportion (10.2 per cent). This contrast between the two classes mentioned is probably due to the fact that the women in the latter class are largely native to the city in which they are employed, while many of the native whites of native parentage have migrated from country districts and are consequently obliged to board.

TABLE CXXXI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.1	74.4	89.8	79.8	68.0
Heads of families	4.8	6.4	2.9	6.1	12.0
With father	42.8	35.4	50.1	41.9	21.2
With mother	21.0	18.6	24.8	14.4	14.4
With other relative	13.5	13.9	12.0	17.4	20.4
Boarding[2]	17.9	25.6	10.2	20.2	32.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	83.5	76.1	90.5	80.0	66.7
Heads of families	2.1	2.8	1.4	2.4	5.1
With father	46.9	40.1	52.3	48.0	28.8
With mother	22.5	20.5	25.5	16.1	17.5
With other relative	12.1	12.7	11.2	13.4	15.3
Boarding[2]	16.5	23.9	9.5	20.0	33.3
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	73.3	66.0	80.8	82.5	(3)
Heads of families	11.8	13.0	12.7	8.3	(3)
With father	8.9	7.1	15.0	5.6	(3)
With mother	6.3	6.7	8.8	1.8	(3)
With other relative	46.3	39.1	44.4	66.9	(3)
Boarding[2]	26.7	34.0	19.2	17.5	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	67.7	62.5	76.7	74.1	(3)
Heads of families	39.5	37.7	36.7	52.8	(3)
With father	8.1	6.8	14.2	2.4	(3)
With mother	9.5	7.6	15.8	5.9	(3)
With other relative	10.7	10.4	10.0	13.1	(3)
Boarding[2]	32.3	37.5	23.3	25.9	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Some indication of the economic importance to their families of the

women employed as clerks and copyists in the 27 selected cities may be obtained from Table CXXXII.

TABLE CXXXII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as clerks and copyists, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS CLERKS AND COPYISTS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	82.1	74.4	89.8	79.8	68.0
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	6.9	8.3	5.8	6.0	10.8
One other	24.3	26.0	22.8	23.9	26.0
Two other	23.9	22.0	26.1	22.1	15.6
More than two other	27.0	18.1	35.1	27.7	15.6
Boarding[2]	17.9	25.6	10.2	20.2	32.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	83.5	76.1	90.5	80.0	66.7
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	5.5	6.6	4.9	4.4	7.9
One other	23.8	25.8	22.6	22.1	21.5
Two other	25.1	23.7	26.7	23.2	18.1
More than two other	29.1	19.9	36.3	30.2	19.2
Boarding[2]	16.5	23.9	9.5	20.0	33.3
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	73.3	66.0	80.8	82.5	(3)
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	12.2	12.5	14.4	8.9	(3)
One other	33.0	32.5	29.6	37.9	(3)
Two other	14.6	11.2	17.3	19.8	(3)
More than two other	13.6	9.8	19.6	16.0	(3)
Boarding[2]	26.7	34.0	19.2	17.5	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	67.7	62.5	76.7	74.1	(3)
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	23.4	22.5	24.6	24.8	(3)
One other	24.3	23.2	22.8	31.7	(3)
Two other	12.8	11.5	17.3	10.0	(3)
More than two other	7.3	5.3	11.9	7.6	(3)
Boarding[2]	32.3	37.5	23.3	25.9	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Of the 39,487 female clerks and copyists included in the above tabulation, 32,410, or 82.1 per cent, were living in their own families, 2,724, or 6.9 per cent, being apparently the sole support of the families to which they belonged; 9,585, or 24.3 per cent, living in families having 1 other breadwinner; 9,420, or 23.9 per cent, in families having 2; and 10,681, or 27 per cent, in families having more than 2. In other words, of the female clerks and copyists living at home, 1 in 12 was apparently the sole support of the family to which she belonged, and of those who were aided by other breadwinners in supporting the family more than one-third had the aid of at least 3 others.

As would be expected, the percentage living in families having no other breadwinner was largest for the widowed and divorced, 561, or 23.4 per cent, of the 2,399 women of this class being reported as the only breadwinners in their families. The fact that 212, or 12.2 per cent, of the 1,740 married women in the occupation were apparently the only support of the families to which they belonged seems surprising at first, but is consistent with the fact that 11.8 per cent of such women were returned as the heads of families (see Table CXXXI), and were therefore presumably living apart from their husbands.

Of the several race and nativity classes, the native whites with one or both parents foreign born had the smallest proportion of women clerks and copyists in families with no other breadwinners, and the largest proportion in families having at least 3 other breadwinners.

STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.

In 1900 there were 85,086 women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters in continental United States. The number thus engaged formed 1.8 per cent of the total number of gainfully employed females over 15 years of age, this occupation ranking thirteenth among the leading occupations for women. It is one of the 11 occupations in which more than three-fourths of the total number of adults employed were women, and one of the few important occupations for this sex which requires technical training in addition to a general education.

Not only do females form a majority of those engaged in this occupation, but their relative importance is increasing. Of the total number of persons 10 years of age and over thus employed in 1900, 76.6 per cent were females, as compared with 63.6 per cent in 1890. Moreover, it is only among women that the occupation is of any considerable importance. Of the female breadwinners over 15 years of age, 18 in every 1,000 were stenographers, as compared with only 1 in every 1,000 among male breadwinners over 15 years of age.

Of the 86,158 females 10 years of age and over who were engaged in this occupation in the entire area of enumeration,[1] 75,274, or 87.4 per cent, were returned as stenographers and 10,884, or 12.6 per cent, as typewriters. The census of 1900 was the first in which a distinction was made between these two classes of wage-earners, but the basis of the distinction is not altogether clear. In the discussion which follows, stenographers and typewriters will be considered as con-

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

stituting a single class and will, for the sake of brevity, be designated as stenographers.

Geographic distribution.—Women employed as stenographers were reported at the census of 1900 from every state and territory in continental United States, the number ranging from 20 in Nevada to 16,269 in New York (see Table 24, page 188). The majority of them, however, were found in a comparatively small number of states, as is indicated in Table CXXXIII, which shows, for the several geographic divisions, the number of female stenographers 16 years of age and over andthe percentage in each race and nativity class.

TABLE CXXXIII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.				
	Number.	Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	85,086	53.3	39.6	6.9	0.2
North Atlantic division	36,239	50.3	41.6	7.9	0.2
New England	9,846	57.5	34.7	7.6	0.2
Southern North Atlantic	26,393	47.7	44.1	8.1	0.1
South Atlantic division	3,703	79.0	18.3	1.9	0.8
Northern South Atlantic	2,557	75.9	21.0	2.2	0.9
Southern South Atlantic	1,146	86.0	12.1	1.3	0.5
North Central division	35,626	51.9	41.0	6.8	0.2
Eastern North Central	24,171	49.5	42.8	7.5	0.2
Western North Central	11,455	57.0	37.3	5.5	0.1
South Central division	3,959	70.9	26.9	1.8	0.4
Eastern South Central	2,431	69.4	28.7	1.4	0.5
Western South Central	1,528	73.4	24.0	2.3	0.3
Western division	5,559	52.2	40.8	6.9	0.1
Rocky Mountain	1,205	61.7	31.7	6.5	0.1
Basin and Plateau	275	46.9	46.5	6.5	.....
Pacific	4,079	49.8	43.1	7.1	(2)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 188.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Almost 60 per cent of the stenographers (59.4 per cent) were reported for two minor divisions in the northern section of the country, the Southern North Atlantic division reporting 26,393, or 31 per cent, and the Eastern North Central division 24,171, or 28.4 per cent. These two divisions contained only 41.4 per cent of the general population, which would seem to indicate a marked concentration of stenographers in the Northern states (see Table 25, page 196). The 12 leading states, which contained only 53.4 per cent of the total population, reported 66,485 women employed in this occupation, or 78.1 per cent of the total number. These states with the number and percentage of this class of wage-earners and the percentage of the general population are as follows:

STATE.	FEMALE STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER: 1900.		Per cent distribution of total population: 1900.
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	
Continental United States	85,086	100.0	100.0
New York	16,269	19.1	9.6
Illinois	10,554	12.4	6.3
Pennsylvania	6,465	7.6	8.3
Massachusetts	6,431	7.6	3.7
Ohio	6,346	7.5	5.5
Missouri	4,369	5.1	4.1
New Jersey	3,659	4.3	2.5
Michigan	2,801	3.3	3.2
California	2,726	3.2	2.0
Indiana	2,457	2.9	3.3
Minnesota	2,395	2.8	2.3
Wisconsin	2,013	2.4	2.7
All other	18,601	21.9	46.6

It will be noted that all of the 12 leading states except California are in the North Atlantic and the North Central divisions and that the first 5 states, which reported more than one-half of the total number (54.2 per cent), are east of the Mississippi river. New York alone reported nearly one-fifth of the total number, and Illinois about one-eighth. The former state contained less than one-tenth of the total population of the country and the latter about one-sixteenth. It is apparent, therefore, that there was a marked concentration of stenographers in a few states, and this is due largely to the centralization of trade, commerce, and manufacture in these states.

Race and nativity.—The race and nativity of the total number of persons employed as stenographers is affected in some degree by the constitution of the general population, but more, perhaps, by the fact that stenography and typewriting requires a special training in addition to a general education, and in most cases in the United States requires also a ready knowledge of English. In view of these facts, therefore, it is to be expected that comparatively few women of foreign birth would be found among those engaged in this pursuit; and this is indicated by the figures presented in Table CXXXIII.

As shown in that table, the native white of native parentage constituted slightly more than one-half (53.3 per cent) of the total number of female stenographers. In this connection it may be noted that this class was in the majority in only 18 of the 47 leading occupations for women and formed only 36.7 per cent of the total number of women gainfully employed (see Table XXIII, page 34). The native whites of foreign parentage formed a large proportion (39.6 per cent) of the total number of stenographers. On the other hand, the foreign born white constituted only 6.9 per cent, while the percentage of negro, Indian, and Mongolian women was so small that this class will not be considered in the discussion which follows.

Conditions of employment in large and small communities in general vary so greatly that a comparison

of the statistics is of considerable significance. Such a comparison is made for stenographers in Table CXXXIV, which shows for each race and nativity class the relative importance of the number thus employed in the total number of gainfully employed females 16 years of age and over in cities of at least 50,000 population and in smaller cities and rural districts.

TABLE CXXXIV.—*Number and percentage of stenographers and typewriters among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.	
		Number.	Per cent.
	AGGREGATE.		
All classes	4,833,630	85,086	1.8
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	45,373	2.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	33,688	3.1
Foreign born white	840,011	5,845	0.7
Negro	1,119,621	174	(1)
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	6	(1)
	IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS.		
All classes	1,657,728	54,063	3.3
Native white—both parents native	414,954	25,323	6.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	554,806	24,078	4.3
Foreign born white	494,044	4,539	0.9
Negro	193,317	122	0.1
Indian and Mongolian	607	1	0.1
	IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS.		
All classes	3,175,902	31,023	1.0
Native white—both parents native	1,357,012	20,050	1.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	535,938	9,610	1.8
Foreign born white	345,967	1,306	0.4
Negro	926,304	52	(1)
Indian and Mongolian	10,681	5	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

From Table CXXXIV it will be seen that in the large cities 33 women in every 1,000 gainfully employed were stenographers, and in the smaller places only 10 in every 1,000. In the large cities 61 women in every 1,000 gainfully employed among the native white of native parentage were to be found in the occupation of stenography, while among native white women of foreign parentage only 43 in every 1,000 were thus employed. In the smaller cities and country districts, on the other hand, the relative importance of this occupation for female breadwinners was slightly greater among native white women of foreign parentage than among those of native parentage, probably because the former class is largely concentrated in the smaller cities, where opportunities for employment as stenographers are better than in the country districts. Table CXXXIV shows clearly how unimportant this occupation was for women of foreign birth, less than 1 per cent of the gainfully employed women of this class being stenographers.

Parentage.—In Table CXXXV the women of foreign parentage employed as stenographers are classified by the country of birth of their parents. This table also shows for each parent nativity class the proportion which the number engaged in this occupation formed of the total number in all occupations.

TABLE CXXXV.—*Number and percentage of stenographers and typewriters among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	86,118	1.6
Native parentage	3,247,907	45,893	1.4
Native white	1,926,637	45,719	2.4
All other	1,321,270	174	(1)
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	40,225	1.9
Austria	25,590	330	1.3
Bohemia	25,719	178	0.7
Canada (English)	102,181	3,225	3.1
Canada (French)	78,979	373	0.5
Denmark	15,580	226	1.4
England and Wales	158,912	4,944	3.1
France	21,164	396	1.9
Germany	538,192	9,277	1.7
Hungary	14,631	205	1.4
Ireland	634,201	12,411	1.9
Italy	26,093	93	0.4
Norway	47,934	653	1.3
Poland	38,536	227	0.6
Russia	40,816	525	1.3
Scotland	46,173	1,568	3.4
Sweden	81,148	995	1.2
Switzerland	15,125	232	1.5
Other countries	47,689	474	1.0
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	3,893	3.4

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

It will be seen from Table CXXXV that stenography was of greatest importance for women of Scottish parentage, 3.4 per cent of the total number of female breadwinners of this nativity being stenographers. The next highest proportion—3.1 per cent—is shown for women whose parents were born in England and Wales and those of English-Canadian parentage. It is to be noted that for female breadwinners representing these countries stenography was a more important occupation than for the native white of native parentage.

Table CXXXV also shows that females with parents born in Ireland, England and Wales, Scotland, and English Canada aggregated 22,148, or 25.7 per cent of the total number employed as stenographers. This proportion, combined with that for native white women of native parentage, shows that 78.8 per cent of the females engaged in this occupation—about 4 in every 5—were of English speaking parentage. The only other country for which a considerable number was reported was Germany. Stenographers whose parents were born in Germany numbered 9,277, or 10.8 per cent of the total.

Age.—Of special significance in the study of statistics relating to the occupations of women are the data showing the age constitution of the female wage-earning population. Such data are presented in Table CXXXVI for stenographers, classified by race and nativity.

TABLE CXXXVI.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	85,126	45,398	33,700	5,848	174
16 to 24 years	53,816	26,560	23,214	3,930	107
25 to 34 years	26,001	15,105	9,256	1,586	53
35 to 44 years	4,351	2,990	1,090	261	10
45 to 54 years	676	525	105	44	2
55 to 64 years	133	100	15	16	2
65 years and over	29	20	3	6	.....
Age unknown	120	98	17	5	.....
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	63.2	58.5	68.9	67.2	61.5
25 to 34 years	30.5	33.3	27.5	27.1	30.5
35 to 44 years	5.1	6.6	3.2	4.5	5.7
45 to 54 years	0.8	1.2	0.3	0.8	1.1
55 to 64 years	0.2	0.2	(1)	0.3	1.1
65 years and over	(1)	(1)	(1)	0.1	.....
Age unknown	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	.....

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

From Table CXXXVI it will be seen that the great majority (93.7 per cent) of the women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers were less than 35 years of age, 63.2 per cent being 16 to 24 years. Of the total number of women gainfully employed only 44.2 per cent were in this age period. In only 8 of the leading occupations for this sex was the proportion 16 to 24 years of age larger than in stenography (see Table XXIV, page 36). This occupation, therefore, is essentially a young woman's pursuit, which is rather to be expected, since it has become of general importance only in recent years.

Table CXXXVII shows, for each race and nativity class, the relative importance of stenographers among the gainfully employed women in the specified age groups.

The proportion of stenographers among gainfully employed females of all classes was larger in the age period 16 to 24 years (2.5 per cent) than in any older age period, although not much larger than in the period 25 to 34 years (2.2 per cent). The percentage for each of the older age groups is very small, which is indicative of the fact noted above that the occupation is new and that consequently the great majority of the women engaged in it are young.

It will also be seen from Table CXXXVII that among gainfully employed women 16 to 24 years of age stenography was relatively of greater importance as an occupation for the native white of foreign parentage than for those whose parents were native born, while in the next older age period the reverse was true. Among the native white of native parentage this occupation was of greater importance for women 25 to 34 years than for those 16 to 24 years; while among those whose parents were foreign born it was of greater importance for the younger age group. The significance of these differences is not easy of determination. They may indicate that as compared with native white of foreign parentage the native white of native parentage take up stenography at a somewhat older age.

TABLE CXXXVII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Native white—						Foreign born white.			Negro.		
				Both parents native.			One or both parents foreign born.								
	Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.		Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.		Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.		Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.		Total.	Stenographers and typewriters.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	85,126	1.8	1,773,109	45,398	2.6	1,091,200	33,700	3.1	840,686	5,848	0.7	1,119,653	174	(1)
16 to 24 years	2,130,370	53,816	2.5	753,266	26,560	3.5	593,435	23,214	3.9	347,759	3,930	1.1	439,725	107	(1)
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	26,001	2.2	399,376	15,105	3.8	297,916	9,256	3.1	202,322	1,586	0.8	266,956	53	(1)
35 to 44 years	676,548	4,351	0.6	244,556	2,990	1.2	130,749	1,090	0.8	119,316	261	0.2	178,810	10	(1)
45 to 54 years	441,457	676	0.2	182,214	525	0.3	46,925	105	0.2	86,136	44	0.1	124,024	2	(1)
55 to 64 years	256,926	133	0.1	120,650	100	0.1	15,982	15	0.1	54,503	16	(1)	64,535	2	(1)
65 years and over	138,691	29	(1)	67,655	20	(1)	5,368	3	0.1	28,262	6	(1)	36,539	.....	.....
Age unknown	18,211	120	0.7	5,392	98	1.8	825	17	2.1	2,328	5	0.2	9,064	.....	.....

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Marital condition.—Statistics relating to the conjugal condition of women stenographers of the several race and nativity classes are presented in Table CXXXVIII.

TABLE CXXXVIII.—*Distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
Total	85,126	45,398	33,700	5,848	174
Single[2]	80,811	42,380	32,724	5,555	146
Married	2,079	1,416	485	156	22
Widowed	1,704	1,206	379	113	6
Divorced	532	396	112	24	.....
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single[2]	94.9	93.3	97.1	95.0	83.9
Married	2.5	3.1	1.5	2.7	12.6
Widowed	2.0	2.7	1.1	1.9	3.5
Divorced	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.4	.....

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

Of the total number of stenographers the great majority—19 in every 20—were single. None of the other leading occupations for women shows so large a proportion of single women. It is interesting to note that in the total number of women gainfully employed the proportion of single persons was only 13 in 20 (see Table XXV, page 38). A large proportion of single persons would be expected among female stenographers, since this occupation is very largely a young woman's pursuit.

Comparison with census of 1890.—In the treatment of stenographers and typewriters the classification of occupations at the several censuses varies so greatly that few comparisons can be made. Persons engaged in this occupation were reported separately in 1900 and 1890, but prior to 1890 they were apparently included with clerks and copyists, principally because their number was very small. At the census of 1870, however, 154 persons were reported separately as "shorthand writers."

Table CXXXIX shows the distribution by race and nativity of females 15 years of age and over employed as stenographers in 1900 and 1890, with the amount and per cent of increase.

TABLE CXXXIX.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	85,912	100.0	21,214	100.0	64,698	305.0
Native white—both parents native	45,669	53.2	12,861	60.6	32,808	255.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	34,100	39.7	6,966	32.8	27,134	389.5
Foreign born white	5,960	6.9	1,356	6.4	4,604	339.5
Negro	177	0.2	31	0.1	146	(2)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Between 1890 and 1900 the number of stenographers increased 64,698, or 305 per cent. In the total number of women 15 years of age and over gainfully employed the increase was only 34.9 per cent (see Table XXVI, page 39). This exceptional rate of increase in the number of stenographers is of course due chiefly to the fact that the typewriter has been developed and put into general use largely since 1890.

Marked differences are apparent in the proportions which the several race and nativity classes formed of the total number at the two censuses. The native white of native parentage, who constituted 60.6 per cent of the total number of women stenographers in 1890, formed only 53.2 per cent in 1900, while the proportion of native white of foreign parentage increased from 32.8 per cent to 39.7 per cent and that of foreign born white from 6.4 per cent to 6.9 per cent. This increase in the relative importance in this occupation of persons of foreign parentage becomes of greater significance when the proportions are compared with those for the total number of women in all occupations.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.			
	All occupations.		Stenographers and typewriters.	
	1900	1890	1900	1890
All classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Native white—both parents native	36.6	35.3	53.2	60.6
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	22.8	20.9	39.7	32.8
Foreign born white	17.3	20.4	6.9	6.4
Negro	23.3	23.4	0.2	0.1

From the above tabular statement it will be seen that the change shown in the distribution by race

and nativity of stenographers is in marked contrast to the corresponding distribution for all occupations. In the latter case the percentages for the several race and nativity classes varied but little between 1890 and 1900. The changes noted for stenographers indicate that the native white of foreign parentage and the foreign born white have entered this occupation very largely since 1890. In recent years the facilities for acquiring the art of stenography have become more general, as, for instance, in the public schools, and this may have resulted in greater advantage to those of foreign birth or parentage than to those whose parents are native.

Table CXL shows, for 1900 and 1890, the age distribution of women stenographers 15 years of age and over, with the amount and percentage of increase.

TABLE CXL.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	85,912	100.0	21,214	100.0	64,698	305.0
15 to 24 years	54,602	63.6	15,188	71.6	39,414	259.5
25 to 34 years	26,001	30.3	5,025	23.7	20,976	417.4
35 to 44 years	4,351	5.1	789	3.7	3,562	451.5
45 to 54 years	676	0.8	125	0.6	551	440.8
55 to 64 years	133	0.2	10	(2)	123	(3)
65 years and over	29	(2)	1	(2)	28	(3)
Age unknown	120	0.1	76	0.4	44	(3)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Stenography was not so exclusively a young woman's pursuit in 1900 as in 1890. In the earlier year 71.6 per cent of the stenographers and typewriters were 15 to 24 years of age, and in the later, 63.6 per cent. This decrease for the youngest age period was offset very largely by the increase in the proportion 25 to 34 years.

Family relationship.—In order to throw more light upon the economic conditions surrounding the employment of women in gainful pursuits special tabulations of census data have been made for 26 selected cities. The cities selected, which, with few exceptions, are those having over 150,000 inhabitants in 1900, contained a relatively large number of women stenographers—in all, 40,580, or about one-half (47.7 per cent) of the total number in continental United States. The 40,580 stenographers included in this special tabulation are distributed by marital condition, race, and nativity in the following tabular statement:

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS IN 26 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Total	40,580	17,816	18,947	3,718	98
Single (including unknown)	38,666	16,612	18,435	3,538	80
Married	883	535	242	93	13
Widowed and divorced	1,031	669	270	87	5

[1] Includes all cities in the list given in Table XLIV, page 56, except Fall River, Massachusetts.

The percentage of the stenographers in these cities who were living in the home of their parents or other relatives and the percentage who were living away from home are shown for each marital, race, and nativity class in Table CXLI.

This table shows that 79.3 per cent—about 4 in every 5—of the total number of women stenographers in the selected cities were living at home either as heads of families or with parents or other relatives, while 20.7 per cent were boarding. The proportion boarding was smallest among single persons and largest among the widowed and divorced, the difference amounting to 18.7 per cent. Only 1 person in 5 among single stenographers was returned as a boarder, while among the widowed and divorced approximately 2 in every 5 were so returned. The proportion of boarders is also large for the married stenographers.

Marked differences are apparent in the proportion of boarders among women stenographers of the several race and nativity classes. In the aggregate for all marital classes the native white of foreign parentage show the smallest proportion boarding, about 9 in every 10 living in their own homes or in those of parents or relatives, as compared with 8 in 10 for the foreign born white and 7 in 10 for the native white of native parentage. Among native white women of foreign parentage approximately 15 in every 20 were living with their parents; among the foreign born white, 13 in every 20; and among the native white of native parentage, 11 in 20. It is thus to be seen that a considerably smaller proportion of the native white women of native parentage are living at home than of those of foreign birth or parentage.

TABLE CXLI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-six selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.			
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	79.3	69.8	88.2	79.2
Heads of families	2.3	3.0	1.5	2.7
With father	43.9	34.8	52.2	45.5
With mother	20.9	18.7	23.6	17.2
With other relative	12.2	13.3	10.8	13.7
Boarding[2]	20.7	30.2	11.8	20.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.1	70.6	88.8	79.6
Heads of families	1.7	2.1	1.2	2.0
With father	45.4	36.4	53.1	47.1
With mother	21.4	19.4	23.9	17.7
With other relative	11.6	12.6	10.6	12.7
Boarding[2]	19.9	29.4	11.2	20.4
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	64.6	62.2	65.7	(3)
Heads of families	5.5	6.2	4.1	(3)
With father	14.0	11.4	19.8	(3)
With mother	7.4	7.1	8.7	(3)
With other relative	37.6	37.6	33.1	(3)
Boarding[2]	35.4	37.8	34.3	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	61.4	56.5	70.7	(3)
Heads of families	21.8	20.9	22.6	(3)
With father	14.7	12.9	19.3	(3)
With mother	12.9	11.1	18.1	(3)
With other relative	11.9	11.7	10.7	(3)
Boarding[2]	38.6	43.5	29.3	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Other breadwinners in the family.—In most cases when a woman engages in gainful occupation her earnings supplement those of other members of the family. Perhaps no available statistics afford a better measure of the extent to which this is the case than those presented in Table CXLII, which gives the per cent distribution, by number of other breadwinners in the family, of the women engaged in this occupation in the selected cities.

TABLE CXLII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as stenographers and typewriters, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-six selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPEWRITERS.			
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	79.3	69.8	88.2	79.2
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	6.4	7.6	5.5	5.5
One other	24.4	26.1	23.2	22.2
Two other	23.6	20.6	26.2	24.5
More than two other	24.9	15.5	33.4	27.0
Boarding[2]	20.7	30.2	11.8	20.8
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	80.1	70.6	88.8	79.6
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	6.0	7.1	5.2	5.1
One other	24.2	26.1	23.1	21.7
Two other	24.2	21.4	26.5	25.1
More than two other	25.6	16.0	33.9	27.6
Boarding[2]	19.9	29.4	11.2	20.4
	MARRIED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	64.6	62.2	65.7	(3)
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	6.0	7.1	4.1	(3)
One other	34.1	34.4	33.1	(3)
Two other	11.7	10.1	14.5	(3)
More than two other	12.8	10.7	14.0	(3)
Boarding[2]	35.4	37.8	34.3	(3)
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	(3)
Living at home	61.4	56.5	70.7	(3)
In families having—				
No other breadwinners	21.2	20.3	23.3	(3)
One other	21.9	20.9	21.9	(3)
Two other	10.3	8.7	14.1	(3)
More than two other	8.0	6.6	11.5	(3)
Boarding[2]	38.6	43.5	29.3	(3)

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

From Table CXLII it appears that in the total number of women stenographers in the selected cities, 74.9 per cent, or about 3 in every 4, lived in families having at least 1 other breadwinner, and 24.9 per cent lived in families in which there were at least 3 ("more than 2") other breadwinners. Only 6.4 per cent of the stenographers were the only breadwinners of the

families in which they lived. In most of the leading occupations for women the proportion of those who are apparently the sole support of the family in which they live is larger than it is in this occupation (see Table 27, page 208).

Women of native birth and parentage employed as stenographers are apparently the sole source of support for their families in a larger percentage of cases than are women of any other nativity. Thus in the total for all marital classes 7.6 per cent of the native white of native parents were living in families in which there were no other breadwinners, as compared with 5.5 per cent of the native white of foreign parentage and of the foreign born white. These facts may perhaps indicate that in the case of female stenographers of native parentage the necessity for employment is more urgent than for those of any other class.

TEACHERS.[1]

At the census of 1900 the number of women at least 16 years of age who were reported as teachers or professors in schools, colleges, and universities in continental United States was 327,206. This makes teaching first in numerical importance among the professional occupations open to adult women and fifth among all occupations into which they enter. The 327,206 teachers and professors were outnumbered by the 1,165,561 servants and waitresses, the 456,405 agricultural laborers, the 338,144 dressmakers, and the 328,935 laundresses. They were first, however, among the 429,497 women engaged in professional service, forming 76.2 per cent of that total.

Importance as an occupation for women.—The extent to which women monopolize the profession of teaching is indicated in the following tabular statement, which classifies the total number of teachers and professors in schools, colleges, and universities as males and females, children and adults. As no distinction is made in these or in subsequent figures between the teachers and the professors, the term "teacher" will hereafter be applied to both classes together whenever they are mentioned in the text.

CLASS.	TEACHERS: 1900.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.
All classes	446,133	118,519	327,614
Adults 16 years and over	445,687	118,481	327,206
Children 10 to 15 years	446	38	408

Women 16 years of age and over are by far the most important class among teachers in the United States, forming 73.3 per cent of the total number reported at the census of 1900. In this connection it is interesting to refer to Tables IX and X of the special report on teachers contained in Census Bulletin 23, which dealt with all teachers at least 10 years of age. It will be found that in 1900 women predominated among the teachers in all sections of the country. The percentage which they formed of the total varied from 85.1 in New England to 60.1 in the Western South Central states, and was generally higher in the North than in the South. In all the main divisions of the country the percentage which women formed of the total number of teachers was larger in the cities of at least 25,000 inhabitants than in the smaller cities and country districts. For continental United States as a whole 82.1 per cent of the teachers in cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants were women, as contrasted with 70.6 per cent of those in the smaller cities and country districts.

Of the total number of teachers 16 years of age and over 73.4 per cent, or about 3 out of 4, were women. This large proportion caused the profession of the teacher to rank tenth among all occupations in the relative prominence of women. The occupations having a larger proportion of women are shown in the following tabular statement, together with the percentages which men, women, and children form of the total engaged in them:[2]

OCCUPATION.	PERSONS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE ENGAGED IN SPECIFIED OCCUPATION, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.				
	Per cent men.	Per cent women.	Per cent children 10 to 15 years of age.		
			Total.	Boys.	Girls.
Dressmakers	0.6	97.5	1.9	(1)	1.9
Housekeepers and stewards	5.3	94.7	.....	.....	.....
Milliners	1.9	94.4	3.7	0.1	3.6
Seamstresses	3.0	91.9	5.1	0.2	4.9
Nurses and midwives	10.1	89.9	.....	.....	.....
Launderers and laundresses	12.9	85.3	1.8	0.2	1.6
Boarding and lodging house keepers	16.6	83.4	.....	.....	.....
Stenographers and typewriters	23.0	75.7	1.3	0.4	0.9
Servants and waiters	16.5	74.7	8.8	1.2	7.6
Teachers	26.6	73.3	0.1	(1)	0.1

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

It will be noted that the occupations in which the percentage of women is larger than it is in teaching do not require such high educational qualifications as that profession. In the proportion of women, therefore, as well as in the actual number employed, it would seem that teaching is the leading occupation for female breadwinners in those classes of the population which are the more highly educated and presumably the more prosperous.

Race and nativity.—The classes of the population from which the female teachers come are shown in the following tabular statement, which gives the distribution by race and nativity:

[1] For a discussion of the census statistics for all teachers, both male and female, see Census Bulletin 23, reprinted in Twelfth Census, Supplementary Analysis, page 475.

[2] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Twelfth Census, Occupations, Table XLVII.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.
All classes	327,206	100.0
Native white—both parents native	207,823	63.5
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	88,449	27.0
Foreign born white	17,218	5.3
Negro	13,478	4.1
Indian and Mongolian	238	0.1

Native white women with both parents native, the largest element among adult female teachers, formed 63.5 per cent of the total number; native white women with one or both parents foreign born formed 27 per cent; and thus it is evident that out of every 10 adult females engaged in this profession, 9 were white women born in this country. One in 20 was a foreign born white woman and 1 in 25 a negro. The Indian and Mongolian female teachers were numerically unimportant, contributing less than 1 to every 1,000 of the total.

If the figures for female teachers are contrasted with those given in Table XXIII (page 34), for women engaged in the 46 other occupations which contained at least 5,000 adult female breadwinners, some interesting facts will be noted. The percentage which native whites with both parents native formed of the total was greater in only 5 occupations than it was in teaching, and all 5 were professional pursuits which contained a comparatively small number of women. The percentage of foreign born whites, on the other hand, was lower only among women engaged as government officials or as agricultural laborers. The rank of teaching in the proportion of native whites of foreign parentage was twenty-eighth and in the proportion of negroes thirteenth. The occupations in which a larger percentage of the total number of women were native whites of foreign parentage were mainly manufacturing or mechanical pursuits or else those connected with trade and transportation. The occupations which had a higher percentage of negroes were chiefly those connected with domestic and personal service or agriculture.

The proportion which the different race and nativity classes formed of the total number of adult female teachers was of course determined to a large degree by the composition of the population, and hence it differed rather widely in the several states, as is shown by Table CXLIII, in which the female teachers 16 years of age and over are classified by race and nativity for states and territories.

TABLE CXLIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1900.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.								
	All classes.	Number.				Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	327,206	207,823	88,449	17,218	13,716	63.5	27.0	5.3	4.2
North Atlantic division	101,799	64,887	30,142	6,367	403	63.7	29.6	6.3	0.4
New England	34,179	24,273	7,797	2,061	48	71.0	22.8	6.0	0.1
Maine	5,499	4,724	588	185	2	85.9	10.7	3.4	(1)
New Hampshire	2,817	2,424	280	111	2	86.0	9.9	3.9	0.1
Vermont	2,845	2,197	532	115	1	77.2	18.7	4.0	(1)
Massachusetts	15,857	10,359	4,291	1,183	24	65.3	27.1	7.5	0.2
Rhode Island	2,100	1,384	557	157	2	65.9	26.5	7.5	0.1
Connecticut	5,061	3,185	1,549	310	17	62.9	30.6	6.1	0.3
Southern North Atlantic	67,620	40,614	22,345	4,306	355	60.1	33.0	6.4	0.5
New York	35,410	19,327	13,234	2,736	113	54.6	37.4	7.7	0.3
New Jersey	7,836	4,902	2,311	535	88	62.6	29.5	6.8	1.1
Pennsylvania	24,374	16,385	6,800	1,035	154	67.2	27.9	4.2	0.6
South Atlantic division	30,908	21,879	2,195	612	6,222	70.8	7.1	2.0	20.1
Northern South Atlantic	16,527	12,265	1,697	401	2,164	74.2	10.3	2.4	13.1
Delaware	717	478	151	26	62	66.7	21.1	3.6	8.6
Maryland	4,755	3,322	871	190	372	69.9	18.3	4.0	7.8
District of Columbia	1,598	807	258	85	448	50.5	16.1	5.3	28.0
Virginia	6,769	5,340	182	70	1,177	78.9	2.7	1.0	17.4
West Virginia	2,688	2,318	235	30	105	86.2	8.7	1.1	3.9
Southern South Atlantic	14,381	9,614	498	211	4,058	66.9	3.5	1.5	28.2
North Carolina	4,088	3,016	64	27	981	73.8	1.6	0.7	24.0
South Carolina	3,150	2,072	104	19	955	65.8	3.3	0.6	30.3
Georgia	5,480	3,462	209	51	1,758	63.2	3.8	0.9	32.1
Florida	1,663	1,064	121	114	364	64.0	7.3	6.9	21.9

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

TABLE CXLIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY RACE AND NATIVITY, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1900—Continued.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.								
	Number.					Per cent.			
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
North Central division	139,596	83,952	46,636	7,854	1,154	60.1	33.4	5.6	0.8
Eastern North Central	76,444	44,896	26,473	4,553	522	58.7	34.6	6.0	0.7
Ohio	18,580	12,700	4,893	792	195	68.4	26.3	4.3	1.0
Indiana	9,806	7,244	2,082	325	155	73.9	21.2	3.3	1.6
Illinois	23,087	13,081	8,424	1,443	139	56.7	36.5	6.3	0.6
Michigan	12,834	6,893	4,761	1,158	22	53.7	37.1	9.0	0.2
Wisconsin	12,137	4,978	6,313	635	11	41.0	52.0	6.9	0.1
Western North Central	63,152	39,056	20,163	3,301	632	61.8	31.9	5.2	1.0
Minnesota	10,825	4,498	5,290	1,025	12	41.6	48.9	9.5	0.1
Iowa	19,579	12,416	6,610	544	9	63.4	33.8	2.8	(1)
Missouri	11,711	8,299	2,464	476	472	70.9	21.0	4.1	4.0
North Dakota	1,876	755	673	442	6	40.2	35.9	23.6	0.3
South Dakota	3,135	1,650	1,224	250	11	52.6	39.0	8.0	0.4
Nebraska	7,673	5,109	2,175	321	8	67.4	28.3	4.2	0.1
Kansas	8,353	6,269	1,727	243	114	75.1	20.7	2.9	1.4
South Central division	34,114	24,527	2,825	861	5,901	71.9	8.3	2.5	17.3
Eastern South Central	18,030	13,035	1,166	256	3,573	72.3	6.5	1.4	19.8
Kentucky	6,052	4,496	668	154	734	74.3	11.0	2.5	12.1
Tennessee	4,538	3,420	267	37	814	75.4	5.9	0.8	17.9
Alabama	3,332	2,253	132	46	901	67.6	4.0	1.4	27.0
Mississippi	4,108	2,866	99	19	1,124	69.8	2.4	0.5	27.4
Western South Central	16,084	11,492	1,659	605	2,328	71.4	10.3	3.8	14.5
Louisiana	3,277	1,930	633	145	569	58.9	19.3	4.4	17.4
Arkansas	2,428	1,832	120	57	419	75.5	4.9	2.3	17.3
Indian Territory	707	465	35	14	193	65.8	5.0	2.0	27.3
Oklahoma	1,202	982	146	25	49	81.7	12.1	2.1	4.1
Texas	8,470	6,283	725	364	1,098	74.2	8.6	4.3	13.0
Western division	20,789	12,578	6,651	1,524	36	60.5	32.0	7.3	0.2
Rocky Mountain	5,259	3,562	1,348	327	22	67.7	25.6	6.2	0.4
Montana	1,020	607	321	84	8	59.5	31.5	8.2	0.8
Idaho	632	432	170	30	.....	68.4	26.9	4.7	.....
Wyoming	424	274	124	26	.....	64.6	29.2	6.1	.....
Colorado	2,793	1,967	650	167	9	70.4	23.3	6.0	0.3
New Mexico	390	282	83	20	5	72.3	21.3	5.1	1.3
Basin and Plateau	1,741	866	764	107	4	49.7	43.9	6.1	0.2
Arizona	373	254	88	28	3	68.1	23.6	7.5	0.8
Utah	1,038	472	501	64	1	45.5	48.3	6.2	0.1
Nevada	330	140	175	15	.....	42.4	53.0	4.5	.....
Pacific	13,789	8,150	4,539	1,090	10	59.1	32.9	7.9	0.1
Washington	2,585	1,636	698	248	3	63.3	27.0	9.6	0.1
Oregon	2,530	1,781	588	156	5	70.4	23.2	6.2	0.2
California	8,674	4,733	3,253	686	2	54.6	37.5	7.9	(1)

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Table CXLIII shows that in all states, with the exception of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Utah, and Nevada, the native white teachers with both parents native were the most numerous class. The percentage which they formed of the total number of teachers varied from 86.2 in West Virginia to 40.2 in North Dakota, and was generally highest in the two southern divisions and lowest in the North Central and Western. In the four states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Utah, and Nevada the most numerous class was the native white with one or both parents foreign born. In most of the other North Central and Western states, and in many of those in the North Atlantic division, teachers of this class were of great numerical importance, but they were not strong in the South. Neither had the foreign born teachers entered the South in any considerable numbers, but they were fairly numerous in the Northern and Western states. Negro teachers, as would naturally be expected, were an important factor only in the Southern states.

Such a consideration of the proportions which teachers of the different nativity classes formed of the total number in the several states naturally leads to the question whether the differences noted are to be attributed wholly to differences in the composition of the general adult female population, or whether they indicate a tendency on the part of one race or nativity class to become teachers in relatively larger numbers

than another. To answer this question Table CXLIV has been prepared, which shows for each race and nativity class the number of teachers in every 10,000 females 16 years of age and over. It also shows similar data for cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and for smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE CXLIV.—NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF TEACHERS IN THE FEMALE POPULATION 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.	
		Number.	Per 10,000.		Number.	Per 10,000.		Number.	Per 10,000.
All classes	23,485,559	327,206	139	5,855,790	76,274	130	17,629,769	250,932	142
Native white—both parents native	12,130,161	207,823	171	1,703,955	35,514	208	10,426,206	172,309	165
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	4,288,969	88,449	206	1,700,209	30,670	180	2,588,760	57,779	223
Foreign born white	4,403,494	17,218	39	2,095,396	7,553	36	2,308,288	9,665	42
Negro	2,589,988	13,478	52	353,787	2,531	72	2,236,201	10,947	49
Indian and Mongolian	72,947	238	33	2,633	6	23	70,314	232	33

Table CXLIV shows, for the country as a whole, that in proportion to their numbers in the general population the native white women with one or both parents foreign born contributed more teachers than any other race or nativity class, and that native white women with both parents native were second in this respect. When the figures for the two are combined, it is found that of every 10,000 white women 16 years of age and over who were born in this country 180 were teachers. This ratio is more than three times that reported for the negroes and about five times that reported for the foreign born whites or for the Indians and Mongolians.

Between the large cities and the smaller cities and country districts, however, some differences are apparent. In the large cities the number of teachers per 10,000 adult women was larger for the native whites with both parents native than for the native whites with one or both parents foreign born, but in the smaller cities and country districts the reverse was the case. Perhaps, however, the most striking difference is among the negroes, for in the large cities 72 adult negro women in each 10,000 were teachers, as contrasted with 49 in smaller cities and country districts.

Possibly a better measure of the comparative importance of teaching as a profession for women in the different classes of population may be obtained by comparing the number of teachers not with the total number of women but with the total number of working women, thus eliminating the wide differences between the classes in the degree to which the women become breadwinners. Figures for such a comparison are presented in Table CXLV, which shows the percentage that teachers form of the total number of adult women workers of each class for large cities and for smaller cities and country districts.

TABLE CXLV.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: 1900.

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.								
	Aggregate.			In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.			In smaller cities and country districts.		
	Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	327,206	6.8	1,657,728	76,274	4.6	3,175,902	250,932	7.9
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	207,823	11.7	414,954	35,514	8.6	1,357,012	172,309	12.7
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	88,449	8.1	554,806	30,670	5.5	535,938	57,779	10.8
Foreign born white	840,011	17,218	2.0	494,044	7,553	1.5	345,967	9,665	2.8
Negro	1,119,621	13,478	1.2	193,317	2,531	1.3	926,304	10,947	1.2
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	238	2.1	607	6	1.0	10,681	232	2.2

Table CXLV shows that the importance of teaching as an occupation decreases with the economic strength of the classes compared. The native whites with both parents native, who are generally considered the most

prosperous class, had the largest percentage of teachers in the total number of employed women, while the negroes, who are regarded as the lowest in the economic scale, had the smallest. That these percentages should correspond roughly to the variations in the general well-being of the different classes would naturally be expected. A girl who is to become a teacher has to be supported while obtaining the necessary education for some years after she has reached the age when she could earn money by entering an occupation of a lower grade. This foregoing of the wages which she might earn, even where the educational institutions are public or eleemosynary, constitutes a tax on the resources of the family which can not easily be borne by those in the poorer classes.

It is not surprising, therefore, in view of these facts, to find that the rank of the nativity classes was practically the same in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts. It should be noted, however, that among the white female breadwinners the proportion of teachers was considerably higher in the smaller cities and country districts than in the cities of 50,000 or more inhabitants. Probably this was due chiefly to the greater diversity of occupations in the large cities.

To determine how far these differences exhibited in Table CXLV are common to all sections of the country, Tables CXLVI and CXLVII have been prepared for main and minor geographic divisions. Both present figures for the adult female teachers—classified by race and nativity—in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, the first table giving the absolute number of teachers and the second the percentage which they form of all adult female breadwinners.

TABLE CXLVI.—WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS—											
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.						In smaller cities and country districts.					
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.	Indian and Mongolian.	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.	Indian and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.					Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			
Continental United States	76,274	35,514	30,670	7,553	2,531	6	250,932	172,309	57,779	9,665	10,947	232
North Atlantic division	38,140	17,872	16,118	3,859	290	1	63,659	47,015	14,024	2,508	105	7
New England	8,949	5,086	2,973	860	29	1	25,230	19,187	4,824	1,201	17	1
Southern North Atlantic	29,191	12,786	13,145	2,999	261	.....	38,429	27,828	9,200	1,307	88	6
South Atlantic division	5,892	3,211	1,139	287	1,253	2	25,016	18,668	1,056	325	4,963	4
Northern South Atlantic	4,786	2,705	989	257	835	.....	11,741	9,560	708	144	1,328	1
Southern South Atlantic	1,106	506	150	30	418	2	13,275	9,108	348	181	3,635	3
North Central division	24,064	10,401	10,569	2,656	437	1	115,532	73,551	36,067	5,198	675	41
Eastern North Central	16,584	6,751	7,745	1,888	200	.....	59,860	38,145	18,728	2,665	313	9
Western North Central	7,480	3,650	2,824	768	237	1	55,672	35,406	17,339	2,533	362	32
South Central division	3,006	1,356	923	182	545	.....	31,108	23,171	1,902	679	5,195	161
Eastern South Central	1,664	803	435	63	363	.....	16,366	12,232	731	193	3,210	.....
Western South Central	1,342	553	488	119	182	.....	14,742	10,939	1,171	486	1,985	161
Western division	5,172	2,674	1,921	569	6	2	15,617	9,904	4,730	955	9	19
Rocky Mountain	1,024	676	265	79	4	.....	4,235	2,886	1,083	248	6	12
Basin and Plateau	342	166	138	37	1	.....	1,399	700	626	70	1	2
Pacific	3,806	1,832	1,518	453	1	2	9,983	6,318	3,021	637	2	5

In every minor division for which figures are shown in Table CXLVII, with the sole exception of the Southern South Atlantic, the rank of the different classes of the population according to the proportion of teachers among the female breadwinners 16 years of age and over was native white with both parents native, native white with one or both parents foreign born, foreign born white, and negro. In the Southern South Atlantic states the proportion of teachers, both in the cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and in the smaller cities and country districts, was lower among the native white with both parents native than among those with one or both parents foreign born. This peculiarity may have been due to the fact that in the far South the population of foreign birth or parentage is so small that a slight immigration of teachers of that class would greatly affect the proportion. On the whole, therefore, the figures for the different sections seem to support the theory that the proportion of teachers varies with the economic strength of the different classes here compared.

TABLE CXLVII.—PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER LIVING IN CITIES HAVING AT LEAST 50,000 INHABITANTS AND IN SMALLER CITIES AND COUNTRY DISTRICTS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER—									
	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.					In smaller cities and country districts.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.				Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	4.6	8.6	5.5	1.5	1.3	7.9	12.7	10.8	2.8	1.2
North Atlantic division	4.2	8.4	5.1	1.1	0.7	7.8	11.7	6.8	1.4	0.4
New England	3.9	9.9	4.2	0.9	0.5	7.5	14.2	5.4	1.2	0.3
Southern North Atlantic	4.2	7.9	5.3	1.2	0.7	8.0	10.4	7.9	1.7	0.4
South Atlantic division	4.0	7.7	6.2	2.9	1.6	4.0	8.8	11.2	6.5	1.2
Northern South Atlantic	4.1	7.5	5.8	2.7	1.6	6.9	12.2	10.1	4.5	1.6
Southern South Atlantic	3.5	9.0	12.9	5.2	1.7	2.9	6.8	14.4	10.3	1.2
North Central division	5.4	8.7	5.8	2.3	1.6	13.3	16.3	13.5	4.2	2.5
Eastern North Central	5.3	8.6	5.9	2.1	1.4	11.1	13.3	11.1	3.8	2.4
Western North Central	5.7	8.8	5.7	2.9	1.8	16.7	21.3	17.5	4.8	2.6
South Central division	3.9	8.1	6.9	4.0	1.3	4.2	10.0	8.9	5.2	1.1
Eastern South Central	3.5	7.4	6.0	3.2	1.3	3.6	8.9	7.5	6.8	1.0
Western South Central	4.4	9.5	8.0	4.7	1.1	5.2	11.6	10.1	4.8	1.2
Western division	7.4	11.3	7.6	3.0	0.4	12.8	16.7	15.4	4.1	0.5
Rocky Mountain	8.6	12.6	8.2	3.0	0.5	11.2	14.7	12.6	3.2	0.6
Basin and Plateau	8.9	18.1	9.1	2.7	(1)	9.6	18.8	16.1	2.3	0.5
Pacific	7.0	10.5	7.4	3.0	0.1	14.4	17.6	16.6	5.0	0.2

[1] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Table CXLVII also indicates that the percentages which teachers formed of the total number of female breadwinners 16 years of age and over varied rather widely between different sections of the country. Many different causes probably contributed to this result. The percentages would naturally be affected by differences in the provisions which are made for teaching, since there will be few teachers where the public maintains few schools. The comparatively small percentages shown for "all classes" in the smaller cities and country districts of the Southern divisions is probably attributable in part to this cause, although to some extent it is due to the fact that in these sections of the country relatively more of the total number of teachers were males. The percentage of teachers among the adult female breadwinners in any section may also be affected by the number and character of the pursuits which are open to women, for it is obvious that, other things being equal, where there are many occupations open to women the proportion of teachers will be lower than where there are few. Differences between the large cities and the smaller cities and country districts may probably in a very large measure have resulted from the greater diversity of occupations and greater opportunities for the employment of women in the large cities. The comparatively low percentage in the North Atlantic states as contrasted with the North Central and Western was also due probably to this cause. The percentages for the white of foreign birth or parentage in the several divisions were influenced of course by the nationalities which contributed to that class of the population. The high percentages in the Southern South Atlantic states for the native white of foreign parentage and the foreign born white may have been due to the comparatively large proportion of Anglo-Saxons in those classes in that section of the country, and the low percentages in the North Atlantic states may have been due to the influx into that section of the nationalities from southern and eastern Europe.

Parentage.—The extent to which women of the different nationalities become teachers is indicated by Table CXLVIII, which gives the number and percentage of teachers among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by the nationality of their parents.

The highest proportion of teachers among the female breadwinners of the different nationalities is found, as would naturally be expected, among women whose parentage was Anglo-Saxon and whose mother tongue was therefore English. The percentages in Table CXLVIII are higher for English speaking countries, with the exception of Ireland, than for any others. Of the European countries which do not use English, those in the western part of the continent contributed relatively more teachers than those in the eastern. Although this may be partially due to differences in the tendencies of the several nationalities, yet it is

probably to be accounted for chiefly by the difference in the periods during which the various peoples have been a factor in the population of the United States; for when the mother tongue is not English the teachers whose parents were of foreign birth represent for the most part the daughters of immigrants born and educated in this country. Many teachers of foreign languages, however, are foreigners by birth; and the comparatively high percentage of teachers among female breadwinners of French parentage doubtless results in part from the demand for native teachers of the French language.

TABLE CXLVIII.—*Number and percentage of teachers among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Teachers.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	327,614	6.2
Native parentage	3,247,907	221,705	6.8
Native white	1,926,637	208,063	10.8
All other	1,321,270	13,642	1.0
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	105,909	5.1
Austria	25,590	377	1.5
Bohemia	25,719	409	1.6
Canada (English)	102,181	9,190	9.0
Canada (French)	78,979	1,640	2.1
Denmark	15,580	692	4.5
England and Wales	158,912	13,327	8.4
France	21,164	1,555	7.3
Germany	538,192	21,166	3.9
Hungary	14,631	104	0.7
Ireland	634,201	35,265	5.6
Italy	26,093	194	0.8
Norway	47,934	2,934	6.1
Poland	38,536	553	1.4
Russia	40,816	278	0.7
Scotland	46,173	4,298	9.3
Sweden	81,148	2,255	2.8
Switzerland	15,125	901	6.0
Other countries	47,689	1,558	3.3
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	9,213	8.2

Age.—The differences in age between the teachers in the several classes of the population are shown in Table CXLIX, which gives the distribution by age periods. The total number, it will be noted, exceeds that previously given by 429, a difference which results from the fact that figures were available only for the entire area of enumeration[1] and not for continental United States.

When the percentages for the different classes shown in Table CXLIX are compared it will be found that the negro teachers were the youngest, more than one-half of them being under 25 years of age. This is doubtless indicative of the fact that very few of the older women in this race have sufficient education to enter this profession. The foreign born white were the oldest, having only 31.1 per cent in the age period 16 to 24. For the two classes of native whites the percentages under 25 were about the same, 47.8 for those with both parents native and 45.3 for those with one or both parents foreign born. Teachers over 54 years of age formed 7.6 per cent of the foreign born whites, the only class in which they were of importance, for among teachers of all classes they formed only 2.2 per cent.

When these percentages for teachers of all classes are compared with those given in Table XXIV (page 36) for the total number of female breadwinners it will be seen that the teachers were younger than the average female breadwinners. Of the total number of teachers, 46.4 per cent were under 25 years of age and 81.2 per cent were under 35. The corresponding percentages for the total number of adult female breadwinners were 44.2 under 25 and 68.4 under 35. In view of the comparatively long period of school attendance necessary in preparation for teaching and the demand for experienced teachers in preference to the young and inexperienced, it is surprising at first to find that the teachers are younger than the average female breadwinners. The explanation is possibly that marriage usually causes the teacher to leave her profession, while it often does not affect women engaged in many of the other occupations. If the teachers are contrasted with female breadwinners engaged in occupations which contain a correspondingly high proportion of single women—for example, with the bookkeepers and accountants, the clerks and copyists, the stenographers and typewriters, or the saleswomen—the teachers will be found the older.

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

TABLE CXLIX.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.									
	All classes.		Native white—				Foreign born white.		Negro.	
			Both parents native.		One or both parents foreign born.					
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.
Total	327,635	100.0	208,030	100.0	88,572	100.0	17,299	100.0	13,479	100.0
16 to 24 years	152,149	46.4	99,477	47.8	40,091	45.3	5,373	31.1	7,041	52.2
25 to 34 years	114,012	34.8	70,422	33.9	33,131	37.4	5,542	32.0	4,857	36.0
35 to 44 years	38,475	11.7	22,937	11.0	11,143	12.6	3,145	18.2	1,230	9.1
45 to 54 years	14,879	4.5	9,569	4.6	3,207	3.6	1,864	10.8	232	1.7
55 to 64 years	5,690	1.7	3,906	1.9	731	0.8	983	5.7	70	0.5
65 years and over	1,515	0.5	1,005	0.5	155	0.2	331	1.9	23	0.2
Age unknown	915	0.3	714	0.3	114	0.1	61	0.4	26	0.2

The effect of marriage may be better brought out in Table CL, which gives the proportion of teachers among the total number of adult female breadwinners in each age period for race and nativity classes.

TABLE CL.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Native white—						Foreign born white.			Negro.		
				Both parents native.			One or both parents foreign born.								
	Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	327,635	6.8	1,773,109	208,030	11.7	1,091,200	88,572	8.1	840,686	17,299	2.1	1,119,653	13,479	1.2
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	152,149	7.1	753,266	99,477	13.2	593,435	40,091	6.8	347,759	5,373	1.5	439,725	7,041	1.6
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	114,012	9.7	399,376	70,422	17.6	297,916	33,131	11.1	202,322	5,542	2.7	266,956	4,857	1.8
35 to 44 years	676,548	38,475	5.7	244,556	22,937	9.4	130,749	11,113	8.5	119,316	3,145	2.6	178,810	1,230	0.7
45 to 54 years	441,457	14,879	3.4	182,214	9,569	5.3	46,925	3,207	6.8	86,136	1,864	2.2	121,024	232	0.2
55 to 64 years	256,926	5,690	2.2	120,650	3,906	3.2	15,982	731	4.6	54,563	983	1.8	64,535	70	0.1
65 years and over	138,691	1,515	1.1	67,655	1,005	1.5	5,368	155	2.9	28,262	331	1.2	36,539	23	0.1
Age unknown	18,211	915	5.0	5,392	714	13.2	825	114	13.8	2,328	61	2.6	9,064	26	0.3

Teaching, as is indicated in Table CL, was most important as a profession among female breadwinners 25 to 34 years of age, and became of less importance in each successive age period. In the period 25 to 34 years the percentage which teachers constituted of the total number of female breadwinners was 9.7 and in the period 16 to 24 years, 7.1. Each advancing period after that of 25 to 34 showed a diminishing percentage, until among the female breadwinners 65 years and over only about 1 in 100 was a teacher. The same tendency was exhibited by all classes of the population though to varying degrees. It was most marked among the native whites with both parents native and least marked among the foreign born whites.

The differences between the several sections of the country in respect to the age of adult female teachers are shown in Table CLI, which gives the distribution by age periods for main and minor geographic divisions.

TABLE CLI.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS, FOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.								
	Total.[1]	Number.				Per cent.			
		16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 64 years.	65 years and over.	16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 64 years.	65 years and over.
Continental United States	326,296	151,994	152,266	20,527	1,509	46.6	46.7	6.3	0.5
North Atlantic division	101,535	39,823	52,364	8,767	581	39.2	51.6	8.6	0.6
New England	34,060	12,695	17,941	3,196	228	37.3	52.7	9.4	0.7
Southern North Atlantic	67,475	27,128	34,423	5,571	353	40.2	51.0	8.3	0.5
South Atlantic division	30,837	14,380	13,869	2,333	255	46.6	45.0	7.6	0.8
Northern South Atlantic	16,481	6,961	8,051	1,315	154	42.2	48.9	8.0	0.9
Southern South Atlantic	14,356	7,419	5,818	1,018	101	51.7	40.5	7.1	0.7
North Central division	139,263	71,934	61,028	5,933	368	51.7	43.8	4.3	0.3
Eastern North Central	76,288	35,952	36,155	3,936	245	47.1	47.4	5.2	0.3
Western North Central	62,975	35,982	24,873	1,997	123	57.1	39.5	3.2	0.2
South Central division	34,003	17,443	14,203	2,153	204	51.3	41.8	6.3	0.6
Eastern South Central	17,976	8,997	7,782	1,093	104	50.1	43.3	6.1	0.6
Western South Central	16,027	8,446	6,421	1,060	100	52.7	40.1	6.6	0.6
Western division	20,658	8,414	10,802	1,341	101	40.7	52.3	6.5	0.5
Rocky Mountain	5,201	2,333	2,558	298	12	44.9	49.2	5.7	0.2
Basin and Plateau	1,738	892	764	75	7	51.3	44.0	4.3	0.4
Pacific	13,719	5,189	7,480	968	82	37.8	54.5	7.1	0.6

[1] Not including age unknown.

An inspection of Table CLI shows that the proportion of women over 44 years was greatest in the New England, the Northern South Atlantic, and the Southern North Atlantic states, and that it was smallest in the Western North Central, the Basin and Plateau, the Eastern North Central, and the Rocky Mountain states. It is rather interesting to note that the rank of the minor divisions, according to the percentage which women 44 years of age and over formed of the total number of adult female teachers, corresponds rather closely to the rank according to the percentage which single women formed of the total number of adult women in the general population.[1] This similarity suggests that possibly the teachers are older in those communities where marriage for this sex is less general.

The difference between the cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants and the smaller cities and country districts in respect to the age of teachers is shown in Table CLII for continental United States.

TABLE CLII.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as teachers, living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, for continental United States: 1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.		
	Aggregate.	In cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants.	In smaller cities and country districts.
	NUMBER.		
Total[1]	326,296	76,045	250,251
16 to 24 years	151,994	23,581	128,413
25 to 44 years	152,266	43,608	108,658
45 to 64 years	20,527	8,283	12,244
65 years and over	1,509	573	936
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.		
Total[1]	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	46.6	31.0	51.3
25 to 44 years	46.7	57.3	43.4
45 to 64 years	6.3	10.9	4.9
65 years and over	0.5	0.8	0.4

[1] Not including age unknown.

The teachers in cities of at least 50,000 inhabitants, as is indicated in Table CLII, were older than those in smaller cities and country districts. This may have been due to the difference between the two classes of communities in respect to the requirement for entrance into the profession. In a rural community a pupil of one year may be the teacher of the next. In the cities and large towns this is rarely the case, for there the demand is for experience. Many teachers, therefore, serve a sort of apprenticeship in the country schools, and later, when they are older and more experienced, obtain the more highly paid and often pleasanter positions in the large towns or cities.

Whether any difference exists between the large cities and the smaller cities and country districts in respect to the importance of teaching as a profession for women of the several ages is shown in Table CLIII. This table gives, for continental United States, the percentage which teachers formed of the total number of female breadwinners in each age period over 15 years.

TABLE CLIII.—*Percentage of teachers among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over living in cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants and in smaller cities and country districts, classified by age, for continental United States: 1900.*

	PERCENTAGE OF TEACHERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS.			
	16 years and over.	16 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 years and over.
Continental United States	6.8	7.1	8.3	2.6
Cities having at least 50,000 inhabitants	4.6	3.1	6.4	4.3
Smaller cities and country districts	7.9	9.4	9.3	2.1

The importance of teaching as an occupation, judged by the percentage which women engaged in that profession formed of the total number of women gainfully employed, was greater in the large cities than in the smaller cities and country districts for women 45 years of age and over, but not for younger women. Although this difference may have been caused in part by differences in the age distribution of the urban and rural teachers, yet this is probably an incomplete explanation, not sufficient to account for such a wide variation. The lower percentage in the large cities for female breadwinners under 45 years of age is due probably to the greater diversity of employment afforded by the urban centers, while the higher percentage in the ages over 45 is partially the result of the presence in the country of the female farmers, who become of great numerical importance after the age of 45, thus forcing down the percentages for all other occupations.

Marital condition.—A subject closely connected with age is that of marriage; and in Table CLIV the female teachers 16 years of age and over are classified by race, nativity, and marital condition.

When the female teachers are compared with the women engaged in other occupations, as shown in Table XXV (page 38), it will be found that the percentage of single women among teachers was exceptionally high. Of the total number of female breadwinners, only 65 per cent were single, while the corresponding percentage of the teachers was 92.2. In only five occupations, as a matter of fact, was the percentage of single higher than in the profession of teaching. These five included the stenographers and typewriters, the bookkeepers and accountants, the bookbinders, the telegraph and telephone operators, and the paper box-makers.

[1] For the per cent distribution, by marital condition, of the adult women in the general population of the minor divisions, see Twelfth Census, Supplementary Analysis, page 393.

TABLE CLIV.—*Distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as teachers, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign-born white.	Negro.
	NUMBER.				
Total	327,635	208,030	88,572	17,299	13,479
Single[2]	302,140	191,400	85,001	15,762	9,762
Married	14,681	9,188	1,883	715	2,863
Widowed	9,610	6,576	1,501	775	750
Divorced	1,204	866	187	47	104
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single[2]	92.2	92.0	96.0	91.1	72.4
Married	4.5	4.4	2.1	4.1	21.2
Widowed	2.9	3.2	1.7	4.5	5.6
Divorced	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.8

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

Another striking feature of Table CLIV is the marked difference which it discloses between the marital conditions of the white and the negro teachers. Of the whites, about 9 out of 10 were single, while among the negroes the corresponding figures were only about 7 out of 10. Every marital class other than the single contained a larger percentage of the negroes than of the whites. Although the differences in marital condition between the several classes of white teachers is to be explained partially by differences in their age distribution, no such explanation applies to the differences between whites and negroes, since for negroes, as already noted, the percentage of women under 25 is larger than for white teachers. The difference in proportion married is therefore mainly a race distinction.

Comparison with previous censuses.—Perhaps the most interesting figures concerning the women engaged in a specified occupation are those which show the changes that have taken place between recent censuses. The census of 1900 included women 15 years of age with the adults, and therefore it becomes necessary to include them in the figures for 1900 in order to present comparable data. Accordingly in Table CLV, which gives the distribution by race and nativity for 1890 and 1900 and the per cent of increase in each class during the decade, the figures deal with teachers 15 years of age and over.

Although the number of female teachers 15 years of age and over increased between 1890 and 1900 in each class of the population, the rates of increase for the several classes were by no means uniform. The greatest, 72.6 per cent, was reported for the negroes; the smallest, 25.3, for the native whites with both parents native. The result of these differences in rates was of course to change the percentages which teachers of the different classes formed of the total number. The percentage for the native whites with both parents native fell from 67.6 to 63.5, while that for the native whites with one or both parents foreign born rose from 23.6 to 27, and that for the negroes from 3.2 to 4.1.

TABLE CLV.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as teachers, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	327,905	100.0	245,839	100.0	82,066	33.4
Native white—both parents native	208,193	63.5	166,207	67.6	41,986	25.3
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	88,630	27.0	57,999	23.6	30,631	52.8
Foreign born white	17,314	5.3	13,793	5.6	3,521	25.5
Negro	13,513	4.1	7,830	3.2	5,683	72.6
Indian and Mongolian	255	0.1	10	(2)	245	(3)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

That these changes correspond to changes in the percentages which teachers formed of the total number of adult female breadwinners of the different classes is shown in Table CLVI.

TABLE CLVI.—*Number and percentage of teachers among female breadwinners 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.					
	1900			1890		
	Total.	Teachers.		Total.	Teachers.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,007,069	327,905	6.5	3,712,144	245,839	6.6
Native white—both parents native	1,825,850	208,193	11.4	1,310,148	166,207	12.7
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,138,129	88,630	7.8	774,751	57,999	7.5
Foreign born white	861,963	17,314	2.0	756,006	13,793	1.8
Negro	1,162,250	13,513	1.2	867,717	7,830	0.9

[1] For area of enumeration.

Teaching, judged by the proportion of the total number of female breadwinners who were engaged in that profession, was of practically the same importance in 1900 as in 1890. A comparison of the figures presented in Table CLVI will show, however, that it was of decreased importance among the native whites with both parents native, for it contained 12.7 per cent of the total number of adult female breadwinners of that

class in 1890 as contrasted with only 11.4 in 1900. The increase in the importance of the profession among the other classes was, however, sufficient to offset this decrease among the native whites of native parentage.

Whether changes have also occurred in the age distribution of the teachers of the several classes during the decade from 1890 to 1900 is a question answered by Table CLVII. This table gives the age distribution of the female teachers 15 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity for 1890 and 1900, together with the number and percentage of increase in each age period during the decade.

The women 15 years of age and over who were teaching in 1900 were older than those engaged in the profession in 1890. In 1890, as Table CLVII shows, 55.6 per cent of the total number of teachers were under 25 years of age, while in 1900 the corresponding percentage was only 46.5. All the age periods over that of 15 to 24 years contained a higher percentage of the total in 1900 than in 1890. The largest numerical increase during the decade was that of 42,879 in the age period 25 to 34 years, but the largest proportional increase was that of 81.6 per cent in the age period 55 to 64 years.

All classes show this increase in the relative importance of the older age groups, and therefore it is not improbable that it is the result in part of a tendency to enter the occupation at an older age after a longer period of preparatory training. The multiplication of normal schools would contribute to this result, as would also the raising of the legal requirements for entrance into the profession. In comparing the percentages of increase shown for the different age groups, it should be remembered, however, that most of the women of older years entered this profession in their youth. To some extent, therefore, the increase shown by the table for the older age group may reflect an influx of young women into this occupation at an earlier period of its history. This is probably the significance of the exceptionally large percentage of increase shown for native whites of foreign parentage in the age periods above 35.[1] In the case of the negroes, the high percentage in the older age periods is probably due to some extent to the fact that among them teaching as a profession is of such recent origin that the mere advancing years of the first persons who entered it would affect the percentages.

[1] See page 52.

TABLE CLVII.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as teachers, classified by race and nativity, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
	ALL CLASSES.					
Total	327,905	100.0	245,839	100.0	82,066	33.4
15 to 24 years	152,419	46.5	136,610	55.6	15,809	11.6
25 to 34 years	114,012	34.8	71,133	28.9	42,879	60.3
35 to 44 years	38,475	11.7	22,668	9.2	15,807	69.7
45 to 54 years	14,879	4.5	10,343	4.2	4,536	43.9
55 to 64 years	5,690	1.7	3,133	1.3	2,557	81.6
65 years and over	1,515	0.5	913	0.4	602	65.9
Age unknown	915	0.3	1,039	0.4	[2] 124	[2] 11.9
	NATIVE WHITE—BOTH PARENTS NATIVE.					
Total	208,193	100.0	166,207	100.0	41,986	25.3
15 to 24 years	99,640	47.9	93,064	56.0	6,576	7.1
25 to 34 years	70,422	33.8	46,412	27.9	24,010	51.7
35 to 44 years	22,937	11.0	15,500	9.3	7,437	48.0
45 to 54 years	9,569	4.6	7,533	4.5	2,036	27.0
55 to 64 years	3,906	1.9	2,313	1.4	1,593	68.9
65 years and over	1,005	0.5	618	0.4	387	62.6
Age unknown	714	0.3	767	0.5	[2] 53	[2] 6.9
	NATIVE WHITE—ONE OR BOTH PARENTS FOREIGN BORN.					
Total	88,630	100.0	57,999	100.0	30,631	52.8
15 to 24 years	40,149	45.3	33,767	58.2	6,382	19.0
25 to 34 years	33,131	37.4	18,332	31.6	14,799	80.7
35 to 44 years	11,143	12.6	4,254	7.3	6,889	161.9
45 to 54 years	3,207	3.6	1,185	2.0	2,022	170.6
55 to 64 years	731	0.8	251	0.4	480	191.2
65 years and over	155	0.2	84	0.1	71	(3)
Age unknown	114	0.1	126	0.2	[2] 12	[2] 9.5
	FOREIGN BORN WHITE.					
Total	17,314	100.0	13,793	100.0	3,521	25.5
15 to 24 years	5,388	31.1	4,593	33.3	795	17.3
25 to 34 years	5,542	32.0	4,319	31.3	1,223	28.3
35 to 44 years	3,145	18.2	2,514	18.2	631	25.1
45 to 54 years	1,864	10.8	1,523	11.0	341	22.4
55 to 64 years	983	5.7	533	3.9	450	84.4
65 years and over	331	1.9	201	1.5	130	64.7
Age unknown	61	0.4	110	0.8	[2] 49	[2] 44.5
	NEGRO.					
Total	13,513	100.0	7,830	100.0	5,683	72.6
15 to 24 years	7,075	52.4	5,180	66.2	1,895	36.6
25 to 34 years	4,857	35.9	2,068	26.4	2,789	134.9
35 to 44 years	1,230	9.1	399	5.1	831	208.3
45 to 54 years	232	1.7	102	1.3	130	127.5
55 to 64 years	70	0.5	36	0.5	34	(3)
65 years and over	23	0.2	10	0.1	13	(3)
Age unknown	26	0.2	35	0.4	[2] 9	(3)

[1] For area of enumeration.
[2] Decrease.
[3] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The percentages of increase among female teachers during the decade 1890 to 1900 were very different for the several sections of the country, as is shown in Table CLVIII. The figures given in that table deal with all female teachers 10 years of age and over, as figures for adults only were not available.

TABLE CLVIII.—*Increase in the number of females 10 years of age and over employed as teachers, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1890.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	FEMALES 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.			
	1900	1890	Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	327,614	246,066	81,548	33.1
North Atlantic division	101,912	80,538	21,374	26.5
New England	34,227	28,262	5,965	21.1
Southern North Atlantic	67,685	52,276	15,409	29.5
South Atlantic division	30,968	21,364	9,604	45.0
Northern South Atlantic	16,543	12,217	4,326	35.4
Southern South Atlantic	14,425	9,147	5,278	57.7
North Central division	139,730	110,095	29,635	26.9
Eastern North Central	76,512	60,707	15,805	26.0
Western North Central	63,218	49,388	13,830	28.0
South Central division	34,189	22,070	12,119	54.9
Eastern South Central	18,066	13,655	4,411	32.3
Western South Central	16,123	8,415	7,708	91.6
Western division	20,815	11,999	8,816	73.5
Rocky Mountain	5,269	2,651	2,618	98.8
Basin and Plateau	1,743	879	864	98.3
Pacific	13,803	8,469	5,334	63.0

An inspection of Table CLVIII shows that the Rocky Mountain, the Basin and Plateau, and the Western South Central states reported the highest percentages of increase, while the lowest were in New England and the Eastern North Central states. These variations between the several sections of the country in respect to the percentage of increase in teachers reflect in a large measure the variations between them in respect to the increase in the general population.[1] The rank of the divisions according to the percentage of increase in the number of teachers was not, however, exactly the same as the rank according to the percentage of increase in the general population. Such variations as occur are to be attributed to differences in the development of the school systems. A given increase in the actual number of teachers will cause a large percentage of increase where the school system is not well developed, while it will cause only a small percentage where the school system is already adequate. New England, for example, ranked fifth in the actual increase in the number of teachers, but it was last in the percentage of increase.

Similar reasons account for the differences between the several sections of the country shown in Table CLIX. This table gives the number of teachers 16 years of age and over in 1880 and 1900, together with the percentage of increase during the twenty-year period.

[1] For a discussion of the increase in population, see Twelfth Census, Supplementary Analysis, page 35.

TABLE CLIX.—*Increase in the number of women 16 years of age and over employed as teachers, for geographic divisions: 1900 and 1880.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.			
	1900	1880	Increase, 1880 to 1900.	
			Number.	Per cent.
Continental United States	327,206	153,870	173,336	112.7
North Atlantic division	101,799	60,207	41,592	69.1
New England	34,179	23,424	10,755	45.9
Southern North Atlantic	67,620	36,783	30,837	83.8
South Atlantic division	30,908	11,746	19,162	163.1
Northern South Atlantic	16,527	6,827	9,700	142.1
Southern South Atlantic	14,381	4,919	9,462	192.4
North Central division	139,596	65,995	73,601	111.5
Eastern North Central	76,444	41,321	35,123	85.0
Western North Central	63,152	24,674	38,478	155.9
South Central division	34,114	10,951	23,163	211.5
Eastern South Central	18,030	7,453	10,577	141.9
Western South Central	16,084	3,498	12,586	359.8
Western division	20,789	4,971	15,818	318.2
Rocky Mountain	5,259	580	4,679	806.7
Basin and Plateau	1,741	452	1,289	285.2
Pacific	13,789	3,939	9,850	250.1

During the twenty-year period covered by Table CLIX the highest rate of increase was 806.7 per cent, reported for the Rocky Mountain division. The smallest was 45.9, reported for New England. As a rule the percentages for the older communities were much lower than those for the newer.

Another interesting comparison which may be made with prior censuses concerns the relative importance of women in the profession at the different dates. Figures for such a comparison are presented in Table CLX, in which the teachers 10 years of age and over are classified by sex for the censuses beginning with that of 1870.

TABLE CLX.—*Distribution, by sex, of teachers 10 years of age and over, for continental United States: 1900, 1890, 1880, and 1870.*

CENSUS.	TEACHERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	Number.			Per cent.	
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1900	446,133	118,519	327,614	26.6	73.4
1890	347,344	101,278	246,066	29.2	70.8
1880	227,710	73,335	154,375	32.2	67.8
1870	126,822	42,775	84,047	33.7	66.3

It will be noted in the above table that the importance of females in the profession of teaching has increased at each census since that of 1870. In that year 66.3 per cent of the total number of teachers 10 years of age and over were females, but by 1900 the proportion had increased to 73.4 per cent.

Family relationship.—In order to determine the relationship of female teachers to the families in which they live, a special tabulation was made of data contained in the schedules of the Twelfth Census for the 27 cities which reported the largest number of adult female breadwinners. The teachers included in this special tabulation are classified by race, nativity, and marital condition in the following tabular statement:

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS IN 27 SELECTED CITIES:[1] 1900.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
All classes	52,876	22,902	22,565	5,710	1,698
Single (including unknown)	49,210	21,102	21,600	5,102	1,405
Married	1,468	667	405	227	169
Widowed and divorced	2,198	1,133	560	381	124

[1] For a list of these cities, see Table XLIV, page 56.

The teachers in each class shown in this tabular statement are distributed in Table 26 (page 198), according to their relationship to the family in which they live. The per cent distribution by family relationship derived from these actual numbers is shown in Table CLXI.

Table CLXI shows that about 1 teacher in 4 boarded. If these figures for teachers are compared with those for the other 16 occupations shown in Table 26, it will be found that only 3 of these occupations—servants and waitresses, housekeepers and stewardesses, and nurses and midwives—had a higher percentage boarding. That the percentage should be higher in these 3 is due to the fact that the term "boarding" includes women living with employers, a class which, in these 3 occupations, is very numerous. That the occupation of teachers should outrank 13 of the others in the proportion boarding is a reflection of the extent to which it is necessary for teachers to leave home in order to get positions.

The relative number of teachers who boarded was by no means the same for the different race, nativity, and marital classes. It varied from 56.2 per cent among the single foreign born whites to 13.3 per cent among the married native whites with one or both parents foreign born. For each race and nativity class it was lowest among the married; for the negroes and the native whites with both parents native it was highest among the widowed and divorced, while for the native whites with one or both parents foreign born and the foreign born whites it was highest among the single.

Of the teachers who lived at home, the largest proportion were in families of which the father was the head. When the figures for the different marital classes are examined, however, it will be found that this was true only of the single. The largest number of married teachers lived with some other relative, presumably the husband, while the largest number of widowed and divorced women were themselves heads of families. As contrasted with teachers of other race and nativity classes, few foreign born whites lived in families of which fathers or mothers were heads. This of course is because in many cases they had no parents living in this country, a fact which also accounts for the high percentage of boarders comprised in this class.

TABLE CLXI.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by family relationship, of women 16 years of age and over employed as teachers, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.3	72.6	77.5	47.1	83.0
Heads of families	6.6	6.9	5.3	10.0	8.4
With father	33.4	32.8	38.2	17.3	32.2
With mother	18.2	17.7	20.8	8.5	21.7
With other relative	14.1	15.2	13.3	11.3	20.6
Boarding[2]	27.7	27.4	22.5	52.9	17.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.0	72.6	77.3	43.8	82.8
Heads of families	4.9	5.1	4.3	6.6	5.2
With father	35.2	34.9	39.3	18.8	36.7
With mother	19.0	18.7	21.3	9.1	24.9
With other relative	12.8	13.9	12.4	9.2	16.0
Boarding[2]	28.0	27.4	22.7	56.2	17.2
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	81.7	77.2	86.7	82.8	85.8
Heads of families	9.0	7.6	8.4	14.5	8.3
With father	10.0	9.4	13.8	4.4	10.7
With mother	5.7	4.9	9.1	3.1	3.6
With other relative	57.0	55.2	55.3	60.8	63.3
Boarding[2]	18.3	22.8	13.3	17.2	14.2
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.4	68.7	79.3	70.6	81.5
Heads of families	43.7	41.0	42.3	53.3	45.2
With father	7.9	6.7	12.0	4.5	11.3
With mother	7.1	6.6	9.5	3.7	10.5
With other relative	13.8	14.4	15.5	9.2	14.5
Boarding[2]	27.6	31.3	20.7	29.4	18.5

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 26, page 198.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

Other breadwinners in the family.—Another tabulation which was made from the entries on the schedules of the Twelfth Census for the 27 cities classifies the adult female teachers according to the number of other breadwinners in the families in which they lived. These other breadwinners include only relatives of the teacher living in the same house with her. Relatives living elsewhere could not be included, as the Census schedules furnished no means of identifying them. Boarders in the house were purposely omitted from the tabulation because, as a rule, their connection with the family was a purely business relationship. The actual numbers derived from this tabulation are shown in Table 27, (page 208), for each race, nativity, and marital class, and the percentages based upon these figures are presented in Table CLXII.

In the 27 selected cities 4,919 teachers were the only breadwinners of the family in which they lived, and of this number 4,247, or 86.3 per cent, were single women. These teachers, who apparently were the sole means of support of their families, formed 9.3 per cent of the total and were less numerous than those living in families of any of the other three classes. The most numerous class, exclusive of that "boarding," consisted of those who lived in families having one other breadwinner, for they formed 22.8 per cent of the total, as compared with 20 per cent for those in families having 2 other breadwinners and 20.2 per cent for those in families having more than 2.

If the figures for the several marital classes are compared, some interesting facts will be noted, which are true almost without exception for each race and nativity class. Teachers living in families which contained 2 or more than 2 other breadwinners formed the highest percentage among the single; those living in families containing only one other, the highest percentage among the married; and those who were the only breadwinners, the highest percentage among the widowed and divorced. The explanation of these differences is to be found in Table CLXI. Single teachers, exclusive of boarders, usually lived with their fathers and mothers and married teachers with their husbands; but the widowed and divorced were heads of families. The single teacher was not usually the only breadwinner, for she was generally assisted by the father and one brother or sister, perhaps more than one. The married teachers were usually too young to have children who were old enough to be breadwinners and thus they were usually assisted only by the husband. As the widowed and divorced women were probably somewhat older than the married, they often had a child who was a breadwinner, but where they had no such child they were the only ones to support the family.

TABLE CLXII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by number of other breadwinners in the family, of women 16 years of age and over employed as teachers, classified by marital condition, race, and nativity, for twenty-seven selected cities: 1900.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS.				
	All classes.	Native white— Both parents native.	Native white— One or both parents foreign born.	Foreign born white.	Negro.
	ALL MARITAL CLASSES.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.3	72.6	77.5	47.1	83.0
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	9.3	10.3	8.3	9.3	8.3
One other	22.8	25.8	21.3	14.8	29.0
Two other	20.0	20.7	21.4	10.6	22.0
More than two other	20.2	15.6	26.4	12.4	23.6
Boarding[2]	27.7	27.4	22.5	52.9	17.0
	SINGLE (INCLUDING UNKNOWN).				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.0	72.6	77.3	43.8	82.8
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	8.6	9.7	7.9	7.7	6.5
One other	21.9	25.2	20.7	12.4	27.0
Two other	20.5	21.4	21.7	10.8	23.3
More than two other	20.9	16.3	27.0	12.9	26.0
Boarding[2]	28.0	27.4	22.7	56.2	17.2
	MARRIED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	81.7	77.2	86.7	82.8	85.8
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	8.1	7.0	8.9	10.1	7.7
One other	46.5	45.9	42.7	50.7	52.1
Two other	14.2	13.2	18.3	10.6	13.6
More than two other	12.9	11.1	16.8	11.5	12.4
Boarding[2]	18.3	22.8	13.3	17.2	14.2
	WIDOWED AND DIVORCED.				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living at home	72.4	68.7	79.3	70.6	81.5
In families having—					
No other breadwinners	25.2	23.7	23.9	29.7	29.8
One other	26.2	25.7	28.9	25.2	21.0
Two other	13.3	13.1	15.7	8.7	18.5
More than two other	7.8	6.2	10.7	7.1	12.1
Boarding[2]	27.6	31.3	20.7	29.4	18.5

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 27, page 208.
[2] Includes those living with employer.

FARMERS.

At the census of 1900 the number of women 16 years of age and over reported as farmers, planters, and overseers in continental United States was 307,706. That so many women were engaged in an occupation which is naturally regarded as one followed almost

exclusively by men seems at first somewhat surprising. The total number of adults reported as engaged in this occupation was, however, 5,674,875, so that the number of women reported constituted but 5.4 per cent, or approximately one-twentieth of the total.

In only 4 of the 47 occupations employing at least 5,000 adult female breadwinners did women constitute a smaller proportion of the total. These 4 included the barbers and hairdressers, the laborers (not specified), the merchants and dealers (except wholesale), and the agents.

Although the occupation of the farmer was thus among the lowest in the percentage formed by women, yet it was sixth in actual number of women employed, being exceeded only by the servants and waitresses, the female agricultural laborers, the dressmakers, the laundresses, and the teachers. Because of the large number of women engaged in it, the occupation of farming is very important in a consideration of the employment of women.

Race and nativity.—The extent to which women of the four race and nativity classes have contributed to this large number is indicated in Table CLXIII, which also shows the difference in the distribution in the several geographic divisions. The actual numbers are given in Table 24 (page 180).

TABLE CLXIII.—*Per cent distribution,*[1] *by race and nativity, of women 16 years of age and over employed as farmers, planters, and overseers, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS.				
	Number.	Per cent.			
		Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro, Indian, and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	307,706	58.3	6.1	11.4	24.3
North Atlantic division	30,019	75.1	10.4	14.1	0.4
New England	8,928	82.6	5.7	11.5	0.2
Southern North Atlantic	21,091	71.9	12.4	15.2	0.5
South Atlantic division	66,657	60.6	0.9	0.8	37.7
Northern South Atlantic	19,570	75.3	2.0	2.0	20.7
Southern South Atlantic	47,087	54.5	0.5	0.2	44.7
North Central division	84,656	55.8	14.0	29.1	1.2
Eastern North Central	46,839	58.1	15.4	25.9	0.7
Western North Central	37,817	52.9	12.2	33.0	1.8
South Central division	114,895	55.7	1.5	2.2	40.6
Eastern South Central	68,693	55.6	0.8	0.7	42.8
Western South Central	46,202	55.8	2.6	4.3	37.3
Western division	11,479	46.0	11.7	27.5	14.9
Rocky Mountain	2,633	56.4	12.6	22.6	8.4
Basin and Plateau	2,385	14.1	8.0	24.2	53.7
Pacific	6,461	53.6	12.6	30.7	3.2

[1] For numbers on which the percentages are based, see Table 24, page 180.

Native white women with both parents native were by far the most important class among female farmers, forming 58.3 per cent of the total number. This proportion of native white women of native parentage was exceptionally high, exceeding that in all but 8 of the 46 other occupations which contained at least 5,000 adult female breadwinners. On the other hand, the 6.1 per cent which the native white of foreign parentage constituted of the total was a proportion lower than that shown for any of the other 46 occupations except that of agricultural laborers (see Table XXIII, page 34). Negro, Indian, and Mongolian women were of practically the same importance among the female farmers as they were among the total number of adult female breadwinners, forming about 24 per cent in each case. The foreign born whites formed 11.4 per cent of the female farmers, as contrasted with 17.4 per cent of the total number of adult female breadwinners. This difference is to be attributed largely to the tendency of the foreign born white women to engage in manufacturing and mechanical pursuits and domestic and personal service in preference to agriculture.

The native whites of native parentage were the most numerous class among female farmers in each of the five main geographic divisions. There was, however, wide variation in the relative numbers in the different divisions, the proportions ranging from 46 per cent, or less than one-half, in the Western division, to 75.1 per cent, or three-fourths, in the North Atlantic division, while in New England the proportion was over four-fifths. In the other three main divisions the proportions approximate fairly closely those shown for the country at large. In the two Southern divisions, where the negro population is large, the proportion was high for the colored races, which were an insignificant element in every other division except the Western.

The large percentage of colored female farmers shown in the West was due mainly to the high percentage in the Basin and Plateau states, where more than half were of the colored races, this division being the only one of the geographic divisions or subdivisions in which the native white of native parents were in a minority. This results from the fact that a large number of Indian women were reported as farmers in Arizona. The highest percentage of foreign born white was found in the North Central states, to which the agricultural classes from western Europe have come in large numbers. In no division did the native whites of foreign parentage form a large percentage of the total, a fact probably to be explained partially by the younger age of this nativity class.

This discussion of the proportion which the different classes form of the total number of female farmers naturally raises the question whether, in proportion to its numbers, one class tends more than another toward farming. Table CLXIV shows the percentage that farmers formed of the total number of

adult female breadwinners in each race and nativity class.

TABLE CLXIV.—*Number and percentage of farmers, planters, and overseers among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for continental United States: 1900.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	4,833,630	307,706	6.4
Native white—both parents native	1,771,966	179,448	10.1
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	1,090,744	18,663	1.7
Foreign born white	840,011	34,975	4.2
Negro	1,119,621	71,665	6.4
Indian and Mongolian	11,288	2,955	26.2

The percentage which farmers formed of the total number of adult female breadwinners was more than twice as great for the Indians and Mongolians as it was for the native whites with both parents native, the class that ranked second in this respect. The reason for this high percentage among the Indians is twofold. In the first place, Indian women, perhaps more than any other class, were restricted to a few rural occupations. In the second place, when the tribal reservations of the Indians were partitioned, farms were allotted to the women. As a result, 26.2 per cent, or more than 1 in 4, of the female breadwinners of the Indian race were farmers.

That the native whites of native parentage ranked next to the Indians in the percentage which farmers constituted of the total number of female breadwinners is attributable to several causes. The higher proportion shown for them as compared with the other white nativity classes was probably due to the fact that this nativity class was more largely concentrated in the agricultural districts than was the case among those of foreign birth or parentage, who tend to seek the cities, where they engage in trade and transportation or manufacturing and mechanical pursuits. They exceeded the negroes, the group that ranked third, probably because they were a wealthier class, and thus included relatively more women who had the means to possess a farm. The much smaller importance of the occupation for the white of foreign parentage as compared with the foreign born white is probably to be explained by the much lower average age of the former class, as farming is preeminently an occupation for women over 40.

The difference in the relative importance of the occupation for the various race and nativity classes in different sections of the country is indicated in Table CLXV, which presents the percentage which farmers constituted of the total number of adult female breadwinners in each class for geographic divisions. The figures for the Indians and Mongolians have been omitted, since the female farmers among these races numbered only 2,955 and were located mainly in the Western and South Central states.

TABLE CLXV.—*Percentage of farmers, planters, and overseers among female breadwinners 16 years of age and over, classified by race and nativity, for geographic divisions: 1900.*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.	PERCENTAGE OF FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
Continental United States	6.4	10.1	1.7	4.2	6.4
North Atlantic	1.7	3.7	0.6	0.8	0.1
South Atlantic	8.6	15.9	2.3	3.4	5.3
North Central	6.4	8.3	2.6	10.3	1.2
South Central	14.0	25.7	5.1	14.1	8.9
Western	6.0	6.4	2.4	7.4	0.7

For women of all classes, farming was most important as an occupation in the South Central division and least important in the North Atlantic, the percentages being 14 for the former against 1.7 for the latter.

In the North Central and Western states farming was most important as an occupation for the foreign born white women, but in the other sections it was most important for native whites with both parents native. The proportion of farmers among the foreign born white women, although less than that among the negroes for continental United States as a whole, was, as a matter of fact, greater in all the divisions except the South Atlantic. Even the native white women with one or both parents foreign born, the class which had the lowest proportion for continental United States as a whole, had a larger proportion than the negro women in all divisions except the two Southern.

The variations between the geographic divisions in the rank of the classes according to the proportion of farmers among female breadwinners were of course affected by differences in the geographic distribution of these classes. The negroes outranked the foreign born whites in the country as a whole because they were concentrated in the agricultural sections of the South, where farming as an occupation for women was of greatest importance, although in the rest of the country they form but an insignificant element.

Parentage.—Table CLXVI indicates the importance of the occupation for the different nationalities represented among females reported as farmers, planters, and overseers.

The only nationality for which the occupation approached the importance shown for the white of native parentage was that of the Norwegians, for whom the proportion of the total number of female breadwinners reported as farmers was 7.1 per cent. The Swiss ranked second, with 5.8 per cent, exactly

equaling the general average. All the other countries of western Europe, with the exception of Ireland and Sweden, also show a relatively high percentage as compared with the total for those of foreign parentage. For most of the countries of eastern Europe, on the other hand, the percentage of farmers was low. This was particularly noticeable for the Italians, the Russians, the Poles, the Austrians, and the Hungarians, the nationalities which of late years have been coming to this country in large numbers. The low percentage for these nationalities is to be attributed mainly to their tendency to congregate in large cities where they find employment in manufacturing and mechanical pursuits. It is perhaps noteworthy that approximately one-third of those of foreign parentage reported in this occupation were of German parentage.

TABLE CLXVI.—*Number and percentage of farmers, planters, and overseers among female breadwinners 10 years of age and over, classified by nativity of parents, for continental United States: 1900.*

PARENTAGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.		
	Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.	
		Number.	Per cent.
All classes	5,319,397	307,706	5.8
Native parentage	3,247,907	248,897	7.7
Native white	1,926,637	179,448	9.3
All other	1,321,270	69,449	5.3
Foreign parentage	2,071,490	58,809	2.8
Austria	25,590	354	1.4
Bohemia	25,719	953	3.7
Canada (English)	102,181	1,804	1.8
Canada (French)	79,979	626	0.8
Denmark	15,580	744	4.8
England and Wales	158,912	5,625	3.5
France	21,164	773	3.7
Germany	538,192	19,260	3.6
Hungary	14,631	231	1.6
Ireland	634,201	11,092	1.7
Italy	26,093	134	0.5
Norway	47,934	3,394	7.1
Poland	38,536	545	1.4
Russia	40,816	373	0.9
Scotland	46,173	1,758	3.8
Sweden	81,148	2,116	2.6
Switzerland	15,125	880	5.8
Other countries	47,689	1,246	2.6
Mixed foreign parentage	112,827	1,901	1.7

Age.—That farming is preeminently an occupation for women in middle life or old age is shown by Table CLXVII, in which the distribution by age periods is given for female farmers, classified by race and nativity. Of the total number of female farmers, only 13.5 per cent, or about 2 in 15, were under 35 years of age; while 66.3 per cent, or almost 2 in 3, were over 44. That the female farmers as a class should be so old is the result of the conditions under which most of them take up farming. The occupation naturally does not appeal to young unmarried women. It normally requires a certain amount of capital and experience, and to a single woman without family ties other methods of gaining a livelihood are more feasible. The statistics indicate that most of the women reported as farmers were once farmers' wives, who upon the death of the husband carried on the farm. This fact will become more evident when the figures for marital condition are considered.

TABLE CLXVII.—*Distribution, by age, of women 16 years of age and over employed as farmers, planters, and overseers, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration):*[1] *1900.*

AGE.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS.					
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.	Indian and Mongolian.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.			
	NUMBER.					
Total	307,788	179,475	18,665	34,982	71,665	3,001
16 to 24 years	11,632	4,193	795	328	5,982	334
25 to 34 years	29,761	12,688	2,114	1,299	13,169	491
35 to 44 years	61,004	32,791	5,040	4,249	18,296	628
45 to 54 years	81,078	48,744	5,301	9,425	16,947	661
55 to 64 years	71,367	46,011	3,482	11,320	10,069	485
65 years and over	51,643	34,661	1,909	8,282	6,427	364
Age unknown	1,303	387	24	79	775	38
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.					
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 24 years	3.8	2.3	4.3	0.9	8.3	11.1
25 to 34 years	9.7	7.1	11.3	3.7	18.4	16.4
35 to 44 years	19.8	18.3	27.0	12.1	25.5	20.9
45 to 54 years	26.3	27.2	28.4	26.9	23.6	22.0
55 to 64 years	23.2	25.6	18.7	32.4	14.1	16.2
65 years and over	16.8	19.3	10.2	23.7	9.0	12.1
Age unknown	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.1	1.3

[1] Comprises continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and persons in the military and naval service of the United States (including civilian employees) stationed abroad.

The lower average age among the negroes was possibly due to the large number of tenant farmers among them. These tenant farmers hire a small area, agreeing to pay rent out of the crop which they raise during the year, and they probably enter the occupation because it affords a ready means of obtaining a livelihood. Among the Indians the high percentage of young women among the female farmers was probably due to the facts that the other occupations into which they may enter are restricted in number, and that many of them obtained farms through the partition of the tribal reservations. The comparatively high percentage of young women among the native white female farmers with one or both parents foreign born is probably nothing more than a reflection of the comparative youth of this element in the general population.

This is brought out more strongly in Table CLXVIII, which shows, for the several race and nativity classes, the percentage which farmers form of the total number of female breadwinners in each age group.

Although among the total number of adult female breadwinners the occupation of the farmers was much less important for the native whites of foreign parentage than for the foreign born whites, this was not the

case in a single one of the groups of known age. Except in the period 16 to 24—where the percentages were identical—the native white female breadwinners of foreign parentage reported a higher percentage of farmers than the foreign born whites. This indicates conclusively that the relatively small importance of the occupation for the native whites of foreign parentage was due almost wholly to the fact that the proportion of them who had reached the age at which women ordinarily take up this occupation was so much smaller than the corresponding proportion of the foreign born whites.

TABLE CLXVIII.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS AMONG FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY AGE, RACE, AND NATIVITY, FOR THE UNITED STATES (AREA OF ENUMERATION): 1900.

AGE.	FEMALE BREADWINNERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.														
	All classes.			Native white—						Foreign born white.			Negro.		
				Both parents native.			One or both parents foreign born.								
	Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.		Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.		Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.		Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.		Total.	Farmers, planters, and overseers.	
		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.
Total	4,843,155	307,788	6.4	1,773,109	179,475	10.1	1,091,200	18,665	1.7	840,686	34,982	4.2	1,119,053	71,665	6.4
16 to 24 years	2,139,370	11,632	0.5	753,266	4,193	0.6	593,435	795	0.1	347,759	328	0.1	439,725	5,982	1.4
25 to 34 years	1,171,952	29,761	2.5	399,376	12,688	3.2	297,916	2,114	0.7	202,322	1,299	0.6	266,956	13,169	4.9
35 to 44 years	676,548	61,004	9.0	244,556	32,791	13.4	130,749	5,040	3.9	119,316	4,249	3.6	178,810	18,296	10.2
45 to 54 years	441,457	81,078	18.4	182,214	48,744	26.8	46,925	5,301	11.3	86,136	9,425	10.9	124,024	16,947	13.7
55 to 64 years	256,926	71,367	27.8	120,650	46,011	38.1	15,982	3,482	21.8	54,563	11,320	20.7	64,535	10,069	15.6
65 years and over	138,691	51,643	37.2	67,655	34,661	51.2	5,368	1,909	35.6	28,262	8,282	29.3	36,539	6,427	17.6
Age unknown	18,211	1,303	7.2	5,392	387	7.2	825	24	2.9	2,328	79	3.4	9,064	775	8.6

Table CLXVIII also shows that the occupation of farming became of increased importance as the age of the female breadwinners increased. Of the female breadwinners 16 to 24 years of age, only five-tenths of 1 per cent were farmers, but the proportion increased steadily until among those 65 years of age and over 37.2 per cent of the total were engaged in that occupation. This steadily advancing proportion is observable for all classes of the population, though it is more marked for some than for others. This of course is simply another indication of the fact that as a rule women become farmers only upon the death of their husbands. That such is the case is shown in Table CLXIX, in which the female farmers are classified by race and nativity and marital condition.

Marital condition.—No less than 73.4 per cent of the total number of female farmers were widows. Even among the negro female farmers, where widows were relatively least numerous, they formed 64.5 per cent of the total number. Married women, who were next in importance to the widows, formed only 15.6 per cent of the total and were most numerous relatively among the negroes. Single women formed 9.1 per cent and were relatively most numerous among the native whites with both parents foreign born. Of the 47 occupations employing 5,000 women, this showed the lowest proportion of single women and the highest proportion of widows.

TABLE CLXIX.—*Distribution,*[1] *by marital condition, of women 16 years of age and over employed as farmers, planters, and overseers, classified by race and nativity, for the United States (area of enumeration): 1900.*

MARITAL CONDITION.	WOMEN 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS.				
	All classes.	Native white—		Foreign born white.	Negro.
		Both parents native.	One or both parents foreign born.		
	NUMBER.				
All classes	307,788	179,475	18,665	34,982	71,665
Single[2]	28,118	16,320	2,407	1,036	8,185
Married	47,983	22,525	3,493	5,359	15,442
Widowed	225,991	137,681	12,376	28,098	46,234
Divorced	5,696	2,949	389	489	1,804
	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.				
All classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single[2]	9.1	9.1	12.9	3.0	11.4
Married	15.6	12.6	18.7	15.3	21.6
Widowed	73.4	76.7	66.3	80.3	64.5
Divorced	1.9	1.6	2.1	1.4	2.5

[1] On the assumption that all the married, widowed, and divorced women in this occupation are 16 years of age and over.
[2] Including unknown.

Comparison with census of 1890.—More or less uncertainty attends any comparison of the number of women reported as farmers at the censuses of 1890 and 1900. In 1890 girls of 15 were classified as adults, and it is possible, therefore, that the number of women reported as farmers at that census might include a few of that age, which would not be the case for 1900, as all girls under 16 engaged in farm pursuits were classified as agricultural laborers. It seems probable, moreover, that at the former census the term "farmer" was employed more or less loosely, and that a very large number of persons were reported as farmers who should properly have been classified as agricultural laborers. In 1900, on the other hand, there was probably no such inaccuracy in classification. The effect of any such errors in the returns would be to make the apparent increase in the number of farmers smaller than the actual increase.[1]

At the same time it seems doubtful just how far the foregoing inaccuracies affected the figures for women in this occupation. The increase in the number of women reported as farmers in continental United States amounted to 81,279, or 35.9 per cent, against an increase of 131,756, or 36.2 per cent, in the number reported as agricultural laborers. This latter increase seems hardly abnormal as compared with the former. It is possible, therefore, that so far as women are concerned, the comparison between the censuses may give a fairly accurate measure of the changes in the occupation.

These facts should be borne in mind in considering Table CLXX, which gives the distribution of the female farmers by race and nativity for 1890 and 1900, together with the percentage of increase for each class during the decade.

The largest actual increase shown by any of the nativity classes was one of 40,733 among the native whites with both parents native, but the largest proportional increase was one of 1,058.7 per cent for the Indians and Mongolians. This enormous percentage is not, however, of particular significance, since the 1890 census included only those Indians who were living outside of tribal relations, while the 1900 census embraced all Indians. The native whites with one or both parents foreign born more than doubled in number, and the negroes increased 45.2 per cent. The smallest relative increase and the next to the smallest actual increase was reported by the foreign born whites.

The effect of these differences in the rates of increase was of course to change somewhat the relative importance of the different classes among the female farmers. The native whites of native parentage and the foreign born whites became slightly less important relatively, while the importance of all other classes increased.

[1] For a more complete discussion of the return of farm laborers as farmers in 1890, see Twelfth Census, Occupations, page lxxii.

TABLE CLXX.—*Distribution and increase, by race and nativity, of women 15 years of age and over employed as farmers, planters, and overseers, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

RACE AND NATIVITY.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
All classes	307,788	100.0	226,427	100.0	81,361	35.9
Native white—both parents native	179,475	58.3	138,742	61.3	40,733	29.4
Native white—one or both parents foreign born	18,665	6.1	8,954	4.0	9,711	108.5
Foreign born white	34,982	11.4	29,106	12.9	5,876	20.2
Negro	71,665	23.3	49,366	21.8	22,299	45.2
Indian and Mongolian	3,001	1.0	259	0.1	2,742	1,058.7

[1] For area of enumeration.

From Table 16 (page 161) it will be seen that the relative importance of the occupation for the different nativity classes showed little variation between the two censuses, the greatest difference being a loss of eight-tenths of 1 per cent for the native white of native parentage. A slight gain in importance is shown for the other nativity classes.

The changes that occurred during the decade in the age distribution of the female farmers is shown in Table CLXXI. This table also gives for each age period the percentage of increase in the number of female farmers.

TABLE CLXXI.—*Distribution and increase, by age, of women 15 years of age and over employed as farmers, planters, and overseers, for the United States: 1900*[1] *and 1890.*

AGE.	WOMEN 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER EMPLOYED AS FARMERS, PLANTERS, AND OVERSEERS.					
	1900		1890		Increase, 1890 to 1900.	
	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent distribution.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	307,788	100.0	226,427	100.0	81,361	35.9
15 to 24 years	11,632	3.8	12,551	5.5	[2] 919	[2] 7.3
25 to 34 years	29,761	9.7	19,244	8.5	10,517	54.7
35 to 44 years	61,004	19.8	41,898	18.5	19,106	45.6
45 to 54 years	81,078	26.3	63,544	28.1	17,534	27.6
55 to 64 years	71,367	23.2	54,501	24.1	16,866	30.9
65 years and over	51,643	16.8	33,981	15.0	17,662	52.0
Age unknown	1,303	0.4	708	0.3	595	84.0

[1] For area of enumeration. [2] Decrease.

It will be noted in Table CLXXI that female farmers 35 to 44 years of age showed the greatest actual increase during the decade, although the greatest relative increase was in the period 25 to 34 years. These two periods, together with that of 65 years and over, were the three which included a larger proportion of the farmers in 1900 than they did in 1890. In the

period 15 to 24 years the number of female farmers actually decreased 919, or 7.3 per cent. This decrease, however, was probably the result of the inclusion in the 1890 figures of a large number of agricultural laborers of that age. The decrease, as shown by the census returns, was confined to the negroes, who were almost exclusively in the South, where the misuse of the term "farmer" in 1890 was the greatest. For all the other classes there was a slight increase in the number of farmers for the period 15 to 24 years.